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Familiar San Francisco problem hits  
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# BAY AREA REPORTER

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## Feds crack down on poppers

by Ed Walsh

**T**he federal government appears to be beginning a crackdown on the sale of poppers.

Last Thursday, August 22, a representative from the Consumer Product Safety Commission ordered the owner of the Phantom store on Castro Street to stop selling products containing butyl or alkyl nitrites or face a fine of up to \$200,000. The official also confiscated 25 bottles of the inhalants for testing.

News of the raid prompted several other stores in the Castro to stop selling the products out of apparent concern that the CPSC would target them next. Phantom owner Imad Bitar said he didn't know why they decided to target his store first.

"They had to start with somebody, so I guess it was me," he said.

The owner said he was ordered to turn over the names of his suppliers and he said that the CPSC representative, Louie Pain, told him that he was not interested in the "little guys."

Bitar said Pain appeared shocked by the open sales of poppers in other shops in the Castro. Bitar said the representative told him: "You guys have your own world here."

Bitar questioned why the government allowed businesses to openly sell the products for years before deciding to crack down now.

"I never thought it was illegal," the store owner said, noting that he purchased the products from a supplier that openly promoted the products in catalogs.

No one from the CPSC returned the *Bay Area Reporter's* call by press time. Just this month, the CPSC posted a new warning on its Web site advising of the dangers of the inhalants that are often used for an added rush during sex.

The spokeswoman for the San Francisco Department of Public Health, Eileen Shields, said she was informed of the apparent crackdown this week by AIDS activist Hank Wilson, but she said she didn't know anything more about it.

Wilson is a founder of both the Committee to Monitor Poppers and Survive AIDS. He co-authored the anti-popper book *Death Rush* in 1986. Wilson and many others have long been critical of poppers for contributing to unsafe sex practices and for increasing the user's susceptibility to HIV infection. Wilson points to a growing mountain of evidence linking poppers to a number of health problems. The combination of Viagra and poppers has been linked to several deaths.

A federal crackdown on poppers in 1988 resulted in manufacturers skirting the law by changing the chemical makeup of the products that are often marketed as videotape head cleaners or boot or leather cleaners. ▼

## The Ride is over

by Zak Szymanski



AIDS Riders roll into Los Angeles at the end of this year's event in June.

**I**n a move that shocked some and didn't surprise others at all, Pallotta Teamworks — the controversial for-profit company that produces a variety of fundraising events for charity — closed its doors and laid off more than 250 employees last week.

According to early news reports, company founder Dan Pallotta told employees the shutdown was temporary, and done to save money in order to allow scheduled events to go on as planned. But Pallotta phone lines were either disconnected or weren't being answered this week, and at press time, representatives from the company had not returned calls from the *Bay Area Reporter* seeking comment.

The layoffs are just the most recent indicators of trouble for Pallotta Teamworks, which for years has been criticized for producing slick AIDS and cancer events that

gross millions but only net a fraction of profits for benefiting charities. Recent business practice squabbles prompted the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center to break from Pallotta's California AIDS Ride this year, and similar charities and companies across the country soon followed suit by distancing themselves from Pallotta events.

In April, a lawsuit was filed against Pallotta's Vaccine Rides, protesting the events' dismal returns to research. In May, Avon Products announced it would not continue to sponsor Pallotta breast cancer walks after 2003. And in July, Pallotta announced it was canceling some of its planned Vaccine Rides and would no longer schedule those events after this year.

Scrambling to keep afloat, Pallotta enlisted a handful of other Bay Area charities to participate in the California AIDS Ride this

year, and many of these smaller organizations, having nothing to lose, participated with the hope of earning some badly needed funds.

But at least one of those organizations has not yet seen a dime from the most recent AIDS Ride, which took place June 2-8.

"We haven't received the money, and we're waiting to hear from them," said Daniel Hlad, spokesman for San Francisco's Black Coalition on AIDS. "We're not sure whether this closure is going to affect how they distribute that money."

A contract is a contract, however, and some organizations don't plan on letting Pallotta's financial woes excuse its commitments: on Monday, the Avon Foundation said it will continue with three breast cancer charity walks scheduled for October, and expects Pallotta Teamworks to do everything it can for the events. ▼

## Gay man wins \$450K settlement

by Joe Dignan

**E**ven though he is \$450,000 richer today, Derek Henkle has a hard time smiling. He's only 21, but when he tries to smile, his lips pull tight into the resigned grimace of someone many times his age.

On Wednesday, August 28, in the office of a downtown San Francisco law firm, Henkle tried to smile a lot, as he signed the nearly half-million-dollar settlement agreement in his lawsuit against the Washoe County School District in Reno, Nevada.

The terms of the settlement agreement in the case not only provide \$451,000 for Henkle, part of which he says he will use to set up an education fund for LGBT youth facing harassment, but they also require the Washoe County School District to do training for its staff and students.

In his lawsuit, Henkle said that starting at about age 14, when he entered ninth grade at

Galena High School in Reno, he was harassed, taunted, beaten, and threatened by his fellow students because he is gay — and that his teachers and school administrators did nothing about it.

"I remember being called 'sissy' a lot," Henkle said. "They would call me 'fag.' They would call me 'queer.' They would call me 'gay.'"

Henkle related that some kids wore latex gloves, "so that we can beat up the AIDS whore and not get AIDS. Everybody at my school had to harass me or they themselves would be harassed."

Henkle told the story of how he had been



Derek Henkle

lassoed by three other students in the school's parking lot. They taunted him and said, "Let's string up the fag and tie him to the back of our truck and drag him down the highway."

Henkle said that he fled into the school building and ran into a classroom, where he called the school's administrators. An hour and 45 minutes later, the school's principal came into the room and told Henkle that "they'd deal with it tomorrow," and sent him home on the same bus with the students who had roped him.

But Henkle said that when the next day came, no one did anything about it.

Instead, Henkle said, "They told me I had to stay in the closet, so I could stay in school."

Henkle was shifted from school to school, three in all. He started in the gifted and talented program at Galena High School. Finally he was placed in a remedial education program.

But Henkle kept a log of the daily harassment. And in May 2000, Henkle called Lamb-

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# Hundreds turn out to remember Barnes

by Cynthia Laird

A who's who of about 500 current and former San Francisco elected officials, friends, and colleagues filled the North Light Court in City Hall Monday evening, August 26, to celebrate the life of gay political consultant Robert Barnes.

Barnes died August 9 after battling multiple illnesses since late June. He was 42. Monday's memorial was held to coincide with what would have been his 43rd birthday.

Speaker after speaker described Barnes's talent as a political consultant and many recalled his sometimes abrasive and contentious personality that at times engulfed him in the midst of a tough election campaign.

Political consultant Jim Rivaldo, who worked with both Barnes and the late Harvey Milk, recalled the time 24 years ago when Milk told him about a young, energetic guy who wanted to help fight the statewide Briggs initiative, which would have banned gay school teachers.



From left, business partners John Whitehurst, Sam Lauter, and Mark Mosher at the memorial for Robert Barnes.

"Bobby Barnes was fiercely, loudly, proudly gay - he was out, way out," Rivaldo said. "I told Harvey, 'You don't need to give this kid hope, you need to give this kid a Valium.'"

He added that years later, in 1990, Barnes, now known as Robert, announced to Rivaldo that the two were competitors and

that Rivaldo "better watch out."

But the two men did work together on some campaigns, and both were involved in the 1990 "lavender sweep" that saw an unprecedented number of gay and lesbian candidates elected in San Francisco.

"I saw that he, like Harvey, had

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# Teacher wins court fight

by Zak Szymanski

When San Leandro High School teacher Karl Debro decided to discuss racism and homophobia with his students, the heterosexual African American probably didn't anticipate it would spark a years-long legal battle that just a few weeks ago began to come to a close.

During the 1997-98 school year, conservative parents tried to remove Debro from the East Bay school for his teachings about the evils of racially motivated and anti-gay bigotry. An investigation by the district concluded that Debro was guilty of "unprof-

essional conduct" and misuse of class time, and he was disciplined for not asking permission to hold such a discussion.

But on Thursday, August 8, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Bonnie Lewman Sabraw ruled that Debro's constitutional right to free speech was violated by the school's actions, and a jury awarded him \$500,000 in emotional distress damages.

"This ruling is a victory for students and educators across the country," said Eliza Byard, executive director of the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network. "As we begin a new school year, it is important that this case be held up as an example of what can and should happen when administrators attempt to silence teachers who are working to end bias toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students and staff."

"This use of the public school system as a propaganda tool for the homosexual movement is merely the fulfillment of a decades-old goal," said a statement from the American Family Association about Debro's case. "During their 1972 [sic] march on Washington, D.C., homosexual

activists published a list of demands for social change. One of those was government 'encouragement and support for sex education courses, prepared and taught by gay women and men, presenting homosexuality as a valid, healthy preference and lifestyle as a viable alternative to heterosexuality.'" (In fact, the first March on Washington was in 1979.)

Not that there's anything wrong with that, according to the court, which will continue this week to hear the case's penalty phase, in which damages could be claimed directly from school Superintendent Tom Himmelberg, who was found to have engaged in "oppression, fraud, or malice."

Debro's lawsuit was filed in 1999 after he pursued a grievance through his union and then decided to challenge the school on constitutional grounds. His suit against the San Leandro Unified School District and Himmelberg claimed he was used as an example to stifle the free speech of other teachers. His attorneys sought a repeal of the school's censorship policies for controversial topics and asked for \$450,000

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# Hansen tries again for Dist. 8 supervisor

by Cynthia Laird

Two years ago, voters in District 8 almost sent longtime community activist Eileen Hansen to City Hall; this year, she wants them to finish the job.

Hansen, who is running on a progressive platform, launched her campaign for supervisor with a party at the Women's Building last Thursday, August 22. An estimated 200 people attended the event, which raised \$10,000 for her campaign, according to spokesman Douglas Conrad.

Among those attending the kickoff were District Attorney Terence Hallinan and Assistant District Attorney Jim Hammer, Supervisor Chris Daly, Redevelopment Commissioner Mark Dunlop, school board member Mark Sanchez, Service Employee International Union Local 250 President Sal Rosselli, and former Supervisor Harry Britt.

At the event, Hansen announced that she had received the endorsement of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club. Additionally, five SEIU locals (790, 250, 535, 1877, and 1000) have put forward their recommendation for the endorsement of Hansen to the San Francisco Labor Council.

Voters will select a new super-



Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano with Eileen Hansen at her campaign kickoff.

visor in District 8, which includes the Castro, Noe Valley, and Glen Park, on November 5. Current Supervisor Mark Leno is expected to win his bid for the 13th District Assembly seat, and that has set off a mad scramble as several LGBT candidates are vying to succeed him. In addition to Hansen they include BART board director Tom Radulovich, former mayoral aide Bevan Dufty, and community activist Shawn O'Hearn.

Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, who supported Hansen in her 2000 race, opened the program last week, telling the crowd that she would be an asset to the board. He also said that the media in San Francisco "could be

doing a tad bit better" when it comes to covering the city's progressive voice.

"We have a vision," Ammiano said. "But ... we get attacked for our voice, we get attacked for our mannerisms. I know what real people want and they want Eileen Hansen."

"Eileen is independent. She's not beholden to any mayor and she's not beholden to any so-called machine."

Public Defender-elect Jeff Adachi also spoke in support of Hansen. "We're electing a fighter," he said. "She's never afraid to speak the truth, even when it's against popular opinion. We're here to

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# Terror in the heartland

by Jane Warner

**C**ala Foods, 4201 18th Street, August 20, 8:30 p.m.: A clerk noticed the check-out line was too long and motioned the last customer in line to the next register. Before the customer could get there, however, a man cut in front and refused to move even though the clerk told him he wasn't next. Angry, the man looked at her and stated, "I look like bin Laden, don't I?" and pulled his penis out of his pants and shook it at her. The clerk screamed for him to leave and called to another clerk who came rushing to her aid. The suspect, described as African American, 30 years old, 6 feet 4 inches, 200 pounds, and wearing a red, green, and yellow hat and red

sweatshirt with tan parachute pants, walked out of the store toward the Castro.

## Memory game

**Castro and Market, August 21, 8:56 a.m.:** While waiting for the light to change at the intersection of Castro and Market, two police officers sitting in their patrol car were approached by a man who seemed to be highly agitated. Screaming through the window of the patrol car, the man insisted that the officers run him for warrants. "I want to know if I'm wanted for anything I did when I was 11 years old," the man shouted. The officers ran a computer check and discovered he was listed as a missing person. The report was filed by San Francisco General Hospital's mental health facility the day before. The

42-year-old man was transported to the hospital by the officers and re-admitted.

## Bottle rocket

**417 Castro, August 25, 7:45 a.m.:** A police sergeant on regular patrol observed a man on the sidewalk in a fetal position. Concerned for his safety, the sergeant stopped to see if he could help. Pulling the hood back on the man's sweatshirt, the sergeant recognized the man as having a "stay away" order from the Castro. The sergeant arrested him for the violation, but determined the man was too drunk to go to jail, so he called an ambulance. Suddenly, the man sat up, picked up an empty vodka bottle, and threw it at the sergeant, striking him in the back of the leg. "Fuck the judge!" yelled the drunk, "I can stay where I want." The 48-year-old man was taken to San Francisco General Hospital via ambulance, treated, and then transported to the county jail. ▼



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# Alleged hate crime at drag king contest

by Ed Walsh

**S**an Francisco police are investigating the violent disruption of the San Francisco Drag King contest last week as a possible hate crime.

Just before midnight on Thursday, August 22, witnesses say a Walnut Creek couple, Jack Broughton, 34, and Jean Earl, 32, began yelling "faggots" and punching patrons at the StudioZtv nightclub on 11th Street, which was hosting the contest. A queer poetry troupe was performing on stage at the time of the incident.

One woman was briefly knocked unconscious and taken to San Francisco General Hospital where she was treated for cuts to her head and face. Her girlfriend suffered a bloody nose.

The hospitalized victim told the *Bay Area Reporter* that she is angry that no one besides her girlfriend came to her aid when she was being attacked just outside the club, formerly known as the Transmission Theater.

"Here I am a bisexual woman getting beaten up in my own space," said the victim, who asked not to be named. "Why wasn't anyone on my back? It was wrong on so many levels. If I had been in a person of color event, this wouldn't have happened," added the woman, who identified herself as Chicano and Native American.

The victim said the incident began when the club's bouncer tried to remove the Walnut Creek couple from the club after they had apparently become disruptive. Broughton called the African American bouncer a "fucking nigger," the victim said. The woman said that when she gazed at the couple in shock, Earl punched her in her mouth. She said that when she followed Earl outside the club to confront her, Earl took a swing at her and she punched back, knocking Earl to the ground. Broughton then punched the victim to the ground while saying, "You fucking bitch, you fucking dyke," according to the victim. Witnesses said Broughton kicked the victim several times while she was on the ground before leaving

the immediate area with Earl.

The bouncer followed the couple to the nearby Eagle Tavern where they were arrested by police. Police said that the pair had also begun taunting patrons at that gay bar.

Police said they observed Broughton calling the bouncer a "fucking nigger" before they took him into custody. The arresting officers said they had to wrestle Broughton to the ground to put handcuffs on him after he struggled with them. Earl tried to run away before they grabbed her and took her into custody, police said.

The pair was booked into San Francisco County Jail on charges of resisting arrest, battery, and being under the influence of alcohol in a public place. They were released on bail the following day. Broughton's bail was \$16,500. Earl, who wasn't charged with any felonies, was released on \$1,000 bail.

The 34-year-old victim told the *B.A.R.* that she was treated in the hospital for about 10 hours before being released. She said she is optimistic that none of her injuries will be permanent. ▼

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# Hallinan kicks off anti-hate campaign

by Zak Szymanski

You may have already seen the posters: photographs of people of South Asian and Arab descent under the statement, "We are not the enemy," followed by the affirmation, "We are your community."

The posters are part of a new anti-hate campaign sponsored by San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan, the United Way of the Bay Area, Alliance of South Asians Taking Action, American Arab Anti-Defamation Center, the Islamic Society of San Francisco, and the Intergroup Clearinghouse.

The campaign comes just as the anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks approaches, an event that left America in turmoil and many Arab, South Asian, and Muslim Americans the targets of backlash. Even in progressive San Francisco, hate crimes against Arabs or people perceived to be of Arab descent skyrocketed; from September 11, 2001 until January 10, 2002, more than 338 cases of Bay Area discrimination and violence were reported to various agencies (although some of those cases, it has been noted, may have been reported to more than one agency). The posters are in the process of being installed on an estimated 800 buses and about 30 bus shelters around San Francisco, and they include a hotline for victims of hate crimes to seek help.

The posters also include an image of which the LGBT com-



DA Terence Hallinan

munity can be proud: the rainbow flag is draped behind the photographs, and it is used, according to Linda Alexander of the D.A.'s office of victim services, to represent diversity in all its forms.

"For many people the rainbow flag really symbolizes San Francisco," Alexander told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "In this instance we are using it to show diversity and inclusivity, and in many ways the flag was even more inclusive than the American flag."

"We are not the enemy" received its official kick-off at a press conference on Monday, August 26 at the Hall of Justice, where the campaign was touted as a tool to

combat prejudice and solidify San Francisco's commitment to tolerance and equality.

Representatives from the D.A.'s office as well as the sponsoring groups were on hand to praise the effort and call for an end to anti-Arab discrimination.

"We have been the victims of vicious attacks because of the way we look and talk," said Souleiman Ghali of the Islamic Society, who noted that a majority of Arab Americans surveyed after September 11 have reported discrimination of some kind, including job termination and the denial of social and medical services. "We are your neighbors, your friends, your brothers. This community is our community, and this is our country."

"We're tired of being scapegoated," concurred Arthi Varma of the Alliance of South Asians Taking Action, "And we're tired of people looking the other way when it happens."

Supervisor Chris Daly also spoke of the need for a response to anti-Arab hate crimes, and Hallinan said that he hoped the campaign would be a "preemptive strike" against hate crimes relating to September 11 backlash or continuing conflicts in the Middle East.

A successful society is marked by how we treat each other "not in easy times," said Hallinan, "but in tough times." ▼

**Victims of all hate crimes are encouraged to call the D.A.'s victims services department at (415) 553-9044.**

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# Vote yes on Prop. C

## Veterans Building seismic safety bonds

This measure would require \$122,755,000 in general obligation bonds. The money would be used to repair earthquake damage sustained by the Veterans Building during the Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989. Besides damage repair, funds will be used to upgrade facilities to meet current codes (including disability access) as well as to create new public arts and cultural facilities. The measure also requires the War Memorial Commission to pay up to \$3 million a year to help defray the public's cost through property taxes.

Opened in 1932, the Veterans Building is part of the War Memorial complex, which also includes the opera house and Davies Symphony Hall. The building was constructed to honor the memory of veterans and to provide educational, cultural, and arts facilities for the general public. Both a national as well as a city landmark, it was in this building that the United Nations charter was signed in 1945 and the peace treaty with Japan ratified in 1951. The building also houses the Herbst Theatre and the Green Room, where more than 435 arts and cultural programs take place each year with an annual attendance of over 300,000.

After being severely compromised by the Loma Prieta quake, the building now has a seismic hazard rating factor of 3, which is the highest rating allowed for an operating building. A major earthquake is expected to cause incredible damage to the building with the possibility of many deaths and injuries. The building lacks adequate fire alarms and sprinkler systems; it does not meet current health, safety, and building codes. We must maintain this historic building.

The War Memorial Commission is one of the few major city commissions that works, and it works well. Commissioners have already set aside \$12 million to help lessen the costs to property tax payers. And with the additional expanded revenue-gen-

erating facilities already planned, these projects will allow the building to help shoulder some of the burden of its own seismic retrofit costs.

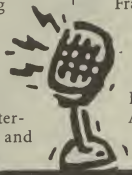
Veterans' interests are being discussed in ongoing meetings with those groups that use the building's facilities. A most vital component of the building's role has been and will continue to be to honor veterans through inclusive planning and the provision for reorganized and upgraded facilities to better meet their functional needs. There are even plans for a flexible and affordable new civic center performance venue for smaller arts and edu-

cational programs.

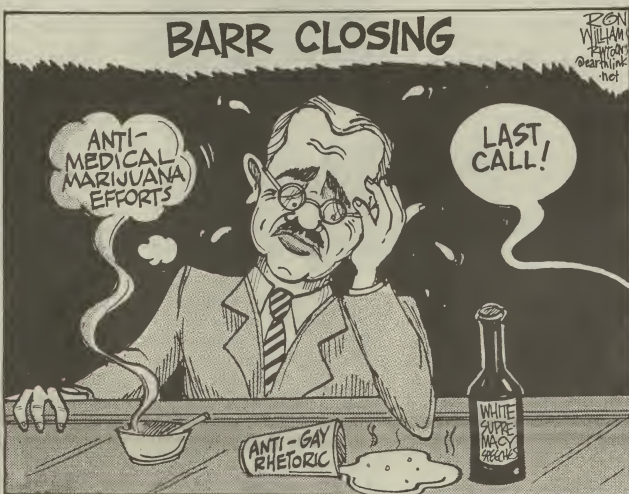
This bond issue is a win-win proposition for many groups in the diverse communities that comprise the citizens of San Francisco.

The Bay Area Reporter is proud to join with other early endorsers of this project, including Senator Diane Feinstein, Mayor Willie Brown, Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano and the rest of the Board of Supervisors, the Good Government Committee, the San Francisco Taxpayers Group, and many arts, veterans, and community organizations.

The roster of support grows daily. We urge you to vote Yes on Proposition C on the November 5 ballot. ▼



Editorial



# Condoms aren't enough

by Daniel Hlad

I feel that perhaps I'm a little hypersensitive lately. As a recent seroconvert myself, 30 years old, and working for a local AIDS service organization, I can't tell you how disappointed I feel sometimes by the ideology surrounding the use of condoms among gay and bisexual men and the overwhelming stigma still faced by our community. No matter how often I read the quote by Dr. Tom Coates in last week's B.A.R.: "If you are going to bottom, make sure a top uses a condom. If you're a top, make sure you use a condom. If we could do that we could probably eliminate 90 percent of the new infections in San Francisco," I can't escape the oversimplified tone of it. I mean, it's true in theory, but my answer? Do you want a shake with that solution?

On the inside I see the embracing of this same mentality in the GLBT community, too often not as an issue of health but more like "Oh, please stop infecting people — they're going to think we're bad!" Makes me wonder sometimes whether we're fighting the Christian Coalition or we're just fighting to be allowed membership to the Christian Coalition.

In the other corner, still standing after a series of punches by those pesky federal-types (by the way, in case you haven't heard, the CDC wants you to know: AIDS is a disease that is usually caused by sex or drug use. OK, got that?), is the Stop AIDS Project which has incorporated a very thoughtful and beautifully developed program that discusses issues of actual importance to those

men most at risk. Radical? Yes! Graphically sexual? Yes! Pornographic? I hope so! A little too much for Jerry Falwell — isn't that just a bonus? Ineffective? Absolutely not.

Let's face it. If AIDS had spread among straight men, you could have expected either of these two scenarios. One: There would have been a cure approximately four seconds after the first case. Two: We'd all be dead right now and it would be tragic, but understandable. No one would have said, "If you're a bottom, make sure a top uses a condom. If you're a top, use a condom." I have a feeling a greater importance would have been placed on the sexual health of straight men.

Certainly a more rounded approach would have been considered and not scrutinized to death.

I have a thought: Let's treat HIV for what it is, a health issue within our community. It's a sexual health issue that prohibits us from making the most of our sexual health. If you want to be mad about something, be mad that there isn't a cure. Be mad that the government wants to prevent any well-rounded approach to HIV prevention because it might actually promote something radical (to them). If you want a course of action, give money to the Stop AIDS Project so they will have to rely less heavily on the restrictions placed on them by those incredibly anal federal-types who lack a sense of humor and any concept as to what is needed by our people. Know that HIV is preventable, but new approaches need to be introduced.

And most importantly, recognize that people are just people regardless of the context of their situations. You are not necessarily a bad or thoughtless person because you've made the decision not to use a con-

dom. In fact, I believe it was a difficult decision to make that required a lot of personal reflection, and thought on my part at one point. It also requires a lot of communication with your partner and it often opens up all of those stigmas.

Sex is important to our community, in general. It is to me certainly and that will never change for me. I think our sexual relationships/acts are included among the many qualities that make the GLBT community so wonderful. Given that, I don't think it is too much to expect better from those in control of funding. I think we can say, "Yes, condoms for everyone!" but we also need to realize that condoms aren't enough. We have to begin developing an honest dialogue that puts HIV prevention into the very places with the most need and represents every strategy (even abstinence — sure, it's a four-letter word to me, but I bet it works for someone).

If I could look into the future, I have a feeling the Stop AIDS Project will be a leader in developing an effective strategy for preventing HIV among gay men. I see their work now almost like it's in its infancy but if properly embraced as a cause by the GLBT community, I think it could potentially spawn a new wave of attitude about how to stop this disease and a new and much-needed energy among queers. I only hope that they receive the community support they are going to need to overcome the many hurdles they will face before any of that becomes a reality. ▼

Daniel Hlad is director of communications at the Black Coalition on AIDS, but his opinions do not necessarily represent those of the organization.

Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Some numbers on HIV infection

Regarding the "Condom conundrum" article in the August 15 issue: The definition of insanity is "doing the same thing over and over again, and expecting different results." Four million condoms later, the rate of STD and HIV infection remains at a disturbingly high level (even rising relative to recent levels). Why?

The answer is simple, and even admitted (although indirectly) by prevention experts: simply advocating the use of condoms is not enough. The facts are thus: condoms break, they are not used properly, people exercise poor judgment, or are impaired by drugs or alcohol. These failures of the "condom code" occur often enough, in combination with the prevalence of HIV in the gay male population, to assure a continuance of the epidemic. As the article cites, gay men know that they should use condoms. Gay men use condoms at extraordinarily high rates.

The math is simple: the number sexual partners a year multiplied by the percentage failure rate of adherence to "condom code," multiplied by the HIV prevalence rate among target population, multiplied by the percentage of time HIV is transmitted as the result of an unsafe contact, multiplied by the number of years sexually active, equals the percentage of sexually active population that will ultimately be infected.

Let's take a slightly adventurous gay male. Say he starts having sex at about 15. Has an average of about 20 partners a year into his late 40s. Say that out of the 20 partners he has sex with on average, per year, the condom code is violated in some way with just one of them. Say the general rate of HIV infection among his peers is about 10 percent. Say that the chance of getting HIV is about one in 20 from any one of the HIV-positive folk among those unsafe contacts. What does all that add up to in terms of how likely that gay male is to be HIV positive by age 50? An estimated 17.5 percent or between 1 in 5 and 1 in 6 men will be HIV-positive:  $20 \times 1/20 = 0.05$  (5%)  $\times 0.10$  (10%)  $\times 1/20 = 0.05$  (5%)  $\times 35$  (50 - 15) = 0.175 or 17.5% by age 50.

Gabriel Rotello's book, *Sexual Ecology*, documents this in great detail. The key to stopping AIDS is not trying to achieve an inhuman level of adherence to the safe use of condoms, but in achieving a significant reduction in the number of partners per year on the part of the average gay male. HIV education needs to speak to this issue as strongly as it speaks to the use of condoms. Only when both messages are communicated, can we expect to see a decrease in the rate of people becoming HIV-positive in our community.

Thomas Leavitt  
Santa Cruz, California

## Feathering the left wing

I agree with Christopher J. Smith's call for the B.A.R. to run a weekly counterpoint left-wing, progressive view column [Mailstrom, August 22]. Knowledge of all views is essential for making informed decisions in our day to day lives, and when election day rolls around. Just as the major media put left-wing points of view in a whimsical feature story, or a man-bites-dog context; the B.A.R. has too often relegated progressive positions to the editorial page or to a human interest article. Rarely, a front page article of substance, nor as of yet, a weekly column. A counterpoint column is long overdue.

Economic politics and social injustice issues covered in such a column could address those in our community who are getting the short end of the stick and need our help. The homeless, gay Muslims, the poor, the uninsured, renters, people with AIDS, and many others who struggle day to day to stay afloat, all need an alternative voice. The plight of our disenfranchised brothers and sisters should be addressed with as many voices as possible. With George Bush now being accused of plagiarizing George Orwell's 1984, it would behoove us to get to know one another with fresh ideas and new visions for the future, so we can help each other.

As Pastor Niemoller stated about the Nazis: "First they came for the Communists, but I was not a Communist - so I said nothing. Then they came for the Social Democrats, but I was not a Social Democrat - so I did nothing. Then came the trade unionist, but I was not a trade unionist. And then they came for the Jews, but I was not a Jew - so I did little. Then when they came for me, there was no one left who could stand up for me."

Alternative, imaginative, expanded thinking can make us a stronger community. A progressive column in San Francisco's premier gay paper is a good place to start. With the Democrats going so far to the right, it's time for expressions of different points of view.

Robert Meslinsky  
San Francisco

## Paper's already progressive

As a faithful reader of your paper since its first issue, I take exception to Christopher J. Smith's letter and his disappointment with the Bay Area Reporter.

Smith complains that the "B.A.R. is afraid to run a regular weekly counterpoint column that expresses truly left-wing, progressive, and democratic views that reflect the entire community in which we live."

Perhaps Smith is reading some other paper and has it confused with the B.A.R. because since its inception I have always felt that the paper has been left-wing, progressive, anti-social, and supported many ill-meaning causes. For this reason I always use the voter recommendation page at election time and vote the opposite way, hoping that I would be able to oppose this so-called left-wing progressive movement that has shown itself to be counterproductive and self-destructive.

In the past the B.A.R. had columnists such as Michael Botkin, who prided calling himself a commie, left-wing Jew but progressive and alas, died of AIDS complications. There have been others, too numerous to mention, who always support the left-wing causes and social unrest and they have always been given prominence and priority in the paper. Even today, occasional guest opinion columnist Tommi Avicelli Mecca manages to preach his socialist, left-wing gospel in the B.A.R. and other local papers, yet I have not seen any opposing points of view printed on a regular basis.

Far from being an imitator of oppressors, I think the B.A.R. is doing a fine job of promoting the causes that Smith supports. The left-wing Stalinists would be proud of our community paper as having continued their work. Fortunately, though, this philosophy is on its way out in a country where it was founded. The news though, as published in *Pravda*, hasn't reached some of your readers that the party is over.

Andrew J. Betancourt  
San Francisco



## Mailstrom

## Must we teach status quo?

This is in response to David Dehner's guest opinion, "Our children need us," [August 22]: It continues to amaze me how minorities - which includes the LGBT community - continue to endorse and support the status quo. Yes, it is important to teach and support our children, the next generation. But must we teach them to endorse and support priests, ministers, and politicians who are only interested in their own agendas, keeping the status quo intact (that is, "the money must flow," paraphrasing *Dune*)? The bottom line for Christendom, or more correctly, Christian-dumb, is not change but to extort money from the blind and ignorant sheep. Would it not be in the best interest of all to teach our children to rely on their own insights and intuition instead of obeying the shepherders unquestioningly? Would it not be better to teach children to question everything so they can decide to become their own confident selves, instead of teaching them to become serfs in a feudal society?

I was taught to think for myself in grade school and high school in Nevada and college in Sacramento. Perhaps our education systems should return to educating our children to think instead of becoming good consumers. And Christendom, as far as I'm concerned, can go the way of the Dodo.

Douglas Alexander Matley  
San Francisco

## Eyes wide shut?

My sympathy to the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro, regarding last week's letter from Patrick Batt, president of that group, stating that he sees the needs of our world-renowned neighborhood being met as far as he is concerned. Does he walk around with his eyes shut? The wonderful stores that used to be in the Castro are all long gone. Our streets and sidewalks are filthy. Panhandlers, drug addicts, and alcoholics abound. Rents are astronomical. Buildings and storefronts are empty. Parking is next to impossible. Our area is rapidly becoming like the current Polk Street, which was also once a vibrant gay neighborhood.

Keith Reiter  
San Francisco

## Duffy beholden only to District 8

I read with amusement Alan Collins's letter to the editor ("Duffy 'knows the drill,'" August 22). In it, he asserts that Bevan Duffy, if elected District 8 supervisor, will have to appease Mayor Willie Brown or suffer the mayor's wrath. This absurd notion smacks of the tired politics of the past: if unable to say something positive about the person you're supporting, use scare tactics against the opponent.

Mr. Collins, sadly, has taken a Chicken Little approach to politics. Interestingly, it's not until the end of his rant that you learn of his choice for supervisor and, even then, he offers few positive words on behalf of his own candidate.

Why should serving as the director of the Office of Neighborhood Services be viewed as a liability when, in fact, it has provided Bevan with his strongest mo-

next page ►

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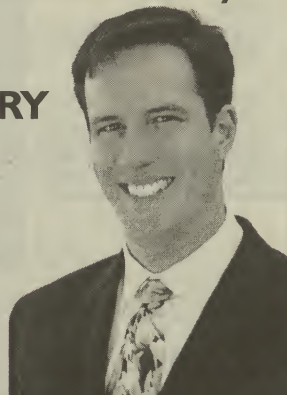
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## Mailstrom

◀ previous page

tivation and experience to run for District 8 supervisor? Bevan's firsthand knowledge of city services makes him by far the best candidate in the race for both District 8 and the city as a whole. Despite Mr. Collins's claim to the contrary, I can assure you, as someone who actually knows Bevan, that the only boss Bevan Dufty will be trying to please, if fortunate enough to be elected supervisor, are the residents of District 8. Moreover, Mr. Collins seems unaware that Mayor Brown's term will be ending in just a little over a year.

Bevan Dufty has the reputation of being highly effective, not only because he listens, but because he acts with great success on people's concerns. It was Bevan who encouraged the mayor to hold "Open Door" days, so that any citizen of San Francisco would have the opportunity to be heard directly by the mayor and city officials. It was Bevan who provided the vision for the mayor's successful "Great Sweep" neighborhood clean-up program. That sounds like the kind of candidate we should support on November 5. He'll have my vote.

Greg Gibbs  
San Francisco

## Thanks for column

How gratifying it was to read your Guest Opinion in the August 8 issue, "HOPE isn't a hoax" by Jeff Sheehy. My liaison to the LGBT community, who brings me your paper every Thursday, had me stop everything to read this carefully detailed study. The column will answer many questions raised by your readership. Those who desire additional information may be directed to [www.sfope.com](http://www.sfope.com).

I'm aware that for over 30 years your prestigious publication has been serving a vital need for the entire Bay Area. May I congratulate you on your years of service and extend to you every good wish for your continued success in your future endeavors.

Supervisor Tony Hall, District 7  
San Francisco

## HOPE will prevent evictions

Once again, the usual suspects are protesting against a program that will help some residents of San Francisco move from tenant to home owner of the unit they currently reside in through Home Ownership Program for Everyone. HOPE was placed on the November ballot through a signature campaign, by the voters of San Francisco, who desire to own their homes without having to move out of the city.

HOPE is a voluntary program between tenants and the building owner. The tenants that can afford and wish to buy the units they currently live in will be able to do so. The tenants in the building who do not wish to buy will receive lifetime leases. The tenant activists (who fight hard to make sure people remain tenants) say the lifetime leases are no good and will not work. But the tenant activists had no problem with the same lifetime leases in the McTic legislation. Wonder why?

Tenant activists say HOPE will deplete "affordable" rent controlled apartments, but if you think about it, when an apartment is placed on the rental market after 20 years of being rented it is going to go for market rate which is unaffordable to many in San Francisco. It is time to start thinking about the future of San Francisco. The folks who are able to purchase their apartments through HOPE will not have to worry about facing an eviction 20 or 30 years from now when they reach their retirement years. The folks that opt not to purchase in a HOPE building will have extra lifetime lease protections. If anyone is going to be living in a unit for 20 or 30 years, they should have the option of owning it.

If the tenant activists are really trying to help people from eviction, they should look into ways to help people become owners, because ownership is the best possible form of eviction prevention. They should also take a serious look into the abuses of rent control that are happening throughout the city. They should try and figure out why there are 10,000 to 20,000 existing apartments being held off the rental market and try to find solutions to get those units back on the market for rental or for sale. Solutions that are acceptable to both tenants and landlords.

Please vote in November and vote yes on Proposition R.

James "Jimmer" Cassiol  
San Francisco

## He'd rather use a wall

For months now, a young gay homeless man has been camping out on the sidewalk on 18th Street, in front of Walgreens, just off Castro.

One recent night, while I was waiting for the #33 bus, I watched as he got up from the sidewalk, walked a few feet into the public parking lot next to Walgreens, and relieved himself on the wall.

The area reeks of urine.

One block away, at Market and Castro, is a Decaux public toilet. The homeless get free tokens to use it.

Why do the progressives keep making excuses for this sort of behavior?

Arthur Evans  
San Francisco

## Let Dale off the hook

Dale Carpenter's done it again. He's written an honest, thoughtful, and heretical piece ["Keep the Pride, ditch the parade," *OutRight July 11*] and he's taken the inevitable vicious criticism from irate gays who rose to his suggestion that the annual gay Pride Parade is no longer productive. They rose from the water like big-mouth bass to an obvious but irresistible lure. The angry responses printed were, I'm sure, only those who managed to actually break the surface to bite the bait. I suspect there were more.

Carpenter's got a lot of gall, to be sure, to go public with his controversial views and he gets shot down all the time. Such is the nature of heresy whether true or not. Frequently it is true but in this case, and granting Dale the best of intentions, he's wrong.

The gay community in the United States has continued to evolve. It is no longer the same as it was when the first gay Pride Parade was inspired by the need for visible and public gay demonstrations. The argument can reasonably be made as Carpenter did that the original purpose of these displays no longer exists. One thing that's never changed is the criticism of these boisterous demonstrations of gay love as unspeakably embarrassing and bizarre. That's been there from the get-go. So what? What's new is that the community of American gays who are veterans of these early political events have grown jaded and more likely to notice their commercial and frivolous qualities. I'm one of them.

However, as an almost daily visitor to the Castro area (ground zero for the gay liberation movement), I've grown to acknowledge and respect the people from all over the world who come to this place — so familiar to some of us — with the reverence usually reserved for pilgrims to Mecca. They practically fall to their knees in front of the big rainbow flag at Castro and Market streets. I was surprised to discover that people from our own country (Houston, unfortunately, my home town) overlook this more seamy side of the parade and instead feel uplifted and inspired. The gay Pride Parade may no longer be for Carpenter and me, but it still hits the spot for these people. Let's not forget Harvey Milk's refrain, "You gotta give 'em hope!" "Oh, Harvey," Dianne Feinstein once said to him in exasperation, "you can't live on hope alone." "Yeah," replied Harvey, "but you can't live without it."

The gay community continues to evolve but it will always owe a debt to people like Harvey Milk, Randy Shilts, and others who took the bitter retaliations, sometimes from the unlikeliest source (i.e. other gays) for advocating points of view that were unpopular. Dale Carpenter is one of those people, too. I appreciate that he has gone public and has the courage, intelligence, and faith to continue writing his sometimes conservative but always libertarian messages. Also the B.A.R. for publishing his work.

For being wrong this time, I forgive him.

Jack L. Dodson  
San Francisco

## New norm in neighborhood

The article on the Detour was interesting ["Sale of bar gets Detoured to court," *August 22*]. The norm in the neighborhood now seems to be a brightly lit place where you can bring all your straight co-workers, drink \$7 cosmos, and watch *Sex and the City*. If your bar doesn't follow this model, no matter how clean it is and how friendly the staff, it is described as an "infamous cruising spot," or a "notorious dive bar." Amazing.

Eric Carlson  
San Francisco

## Need a PWA in D.C.

In regard to your article on AIDS czar musical chairs [*July 25*]: I think the president, instead of having a doctor as the czar, should appoint a person living with HIV/AIDS as czar. Maybe he is too scared of having someone with the disease in his administration. If he appointed someone with the disease maybe, just maybe, something would get done and the politicians would listen. I doubt it though.

Mark Padgett  
San Mateo, California

Send letters to the Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Letters must be signed, and include an address and daytime phone number for verification purposes only. Unsigned letters will not be printed. E-mail letters are accepted at [BARpaper@aol.com](mailto:BARpaper@aol.com). Please put "letter to the editor" in the subject line, and also include an address and phone number.



# Candidates, measures make for long ballot

by Wayne Friday

The upcoming Labor Day holiday marks the traditional beginning of the fall election campaign, and now that the filing deadline has passed, the November 5 ballot for San Francisco voters will include the following candidates, propositions, and measures.

## Governor

**Gray Davis** (Democrat) - incumbent  
**William Simon Jr.** (Republican)  
**Peter Camejo** (Green Party)  
**Gary David Copeland** (Libertarian)  
**Iris Adam** (Natural Law Party)

## Lieutenant Governor

**Cruz Bustamante** (Democrat) - incumbent  
**Bruce McPherson** (Republican)

## Attorney General

**Bill Lockyer** (Democrat) - incumbent  
**Dick Ackerman** (Republican)

## Treasurer

**Phil Angelides** (Democrat) - incumbent  
**Greg Conlon** (Republican)

## Secretary of State

**Kevin Shelley** (Democrat)  
**Keith Olberg** (Republican)

## Insurance Commissioner

**John Garamendi** (Democrat)  
**Gary Mendoza** (Republican)

## Controller

**Steven P. Westly** (Democrat)  
**Tom McClintock** (Republican)

## Superintendent of Public Instruction

(Nonpartisan race)  
**Jack O'Connell** (registered Democrat)  
**Katherine Smith** (registered Republican)

## Board of Equalization (District 1)

**Carole Migden** (Democrat)  
**Mark S. Bendick** (Republican)

## State ballot measures

Proposition 46: Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Bond Act of 2002.

Proposition 47: Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2002 and 2004.

Proposition 48: Court Consolidation.

Proposition 49: After School Programs. State Grants.

Proposition 50: Water Quality. Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects. Coastal Wetlands Purchase and Protection Bonds.

Proposition 51: Transportation. Allocation of Sales and Use Taxes Raised from Sale or Lease of Motor Vehicles.

## San Francisco County Measures

### Bond measures

A - Revenue Bond Election (\$1,628,000,000)  
 B - Affordable Housing Bonds Special Election (\$250,000,000)  
 C - Veterans Building Special Election; ordinance

(\$122,755,000)

### Charter amendments

D - Energy Self-Sufficiency  
 E - Changes to Public Utilities  
 F - Entertainment Commission

G - Assistance to Elections Department

H - Retirement Benefits for Police and Fire Personnel

I - Paid Parental Leave

J - Supervisors Salary; Civil Service Commission

### Ordinances

K - Ordinance Amending SF Administrative Code Article IX (official newspapers)

L - Real Property Transfer Tax Ordinance

M - City Economic Development Plan

N - Care Not Cash

O - Exits from Homelessness

P - Public Utilities Revenue

Bond Oversight Committee

Q - Prohibition of the Use of City Funds for Political Activity

R - Home Ownership Program for Everyone (HOPE)

Declaration of policy

S - Explore the possibility of establishing a program whereby the city would grow medical cannabis and distribute it to patients.

## BART Board District 8

**James Fang** - incumbent  
**Vesko G. Marinov**

## Board of Education

(three seats to be elected)

**James M. Calloway**

**Eddie Chin** - incumbent

**Bill Doherty**

**Attila Gabor**

**Daniel Guillory**

**Jason Jones**

**Dan Kelly** - incumbent

**Whitney Leigh**

**Sarah Lipson**

**Alexandra Pastine**

## Board of Supervisors

District 2

**Harold Brown**

**Gavin Newsom** - incumbent

**Len Pettigrew**

**Lynne Newhouse-Segal**

District 4

**Ron Dudum**

**Barry Hermanson**

**Ed Jew**

**Marks Lam**

**Andrew Lee**

**Krista Spence Loretto**

**Fiona Ma**

**Tom Martin**

**Joel Ventresca**

District 6

**Chris Daly** - incumbent

**James Leo Dunn**

**Roger Gordon**

**Arthur Jackson**

**Garrett Jenkins**

**Malinka Moye**

**Robert N. Power**

**Burke Strunsky**

**Michael A. Sweet**

District 8

**Bevan Duffy**

**James Green**

**Eileen Hansen**

**Shawn O'Hearn**

**Tom Radulovich**

District 10

**Sophie Maxwell** - incumbent

## Community College Board

(three seats to be elected)

**Amarcy D. Berry**

**Johnnie L. Carter** - incumbent

**Peter B. Gallegos**

**Anita Greer** - incumbent

**Abel Mouton**

**Lawrence Wong** - incumbent

## Assessor-Recorder

**Mabel Teng**

**Doris Ward** - incumbent

## Superior Court Seat 10

**Sean Connolly**

**Gail Dekreon**

## Politics and people

Hal Before President **George W. Bush** made his stealth visit to California last week to raise \$2.5 million for embattled GOP gubernatorial candidate **Bill**

**Simon**, the president spent the previous night in Portland, Oregon, bunking down at the Portland Hilton, along with more than 1,000 gay softball players who were in town for the Gay Softball World Series in Ore-

gon's Rose City (and nobody told the White House advance team?). A gay police chief in the Southland? Monday's *San Francisco Chronicle* had a lengthy story on Los Angeles Police Department Deputy Chief **David Kalish**, who appears to have a shot at becoming the next chief of the LAPD. Kalish, 49, is in a long-term relationship with a Thai man and has a 3-year-old son, born to a lesbian friend through artificial insemination. According to the *Chronicle*, Kalish's sexual orientation is a non-issue in the city's search for a new top cop. "David Kalish being where he is living proof that the LAPD is ready for a gay chief," L.A. City Council member **Jack Weiss** told the paper.

In Sacramento, some of state Senate President Pro Tem **John Burton's** (D-San Francisco) own supporters privately wish that Burton would remember that despite the fact he is often called "the second most powerful person in Sacramento," it is **Gray Davis** who actually is the governor. In Little Rock, Arkansas, the American Civil Liberties Union asked a judge last week to overturn a state ban on gays serving as foster parents. The group says the ban was based on stereotypes and prejudices and doesn't help children who need loving homes; a state attorney replied that the ban was "carefully considered" before its adoption. From Washington comes word that the American Red Cross has adopted a nationwide policy that defines family in a "broad and inclusive" way to include gay and lesbian domestic partners. After receiving reports that the same-sex partners of victims of the September 11 attacks were having trouble gaining assistance, the charity issued 16 criteria for determining a financially interdependent couple, trained volunteers to interview same-sex couples, and appointed an ombudsman to oversee their cases.

And how was your week? ▼



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# What was the Bloomsbury group?

by Paula Martinac

August 1912 (90 years ago this month): Virginia Stephen marries fellow writer and Bloomsbury member Leonard Woolf.

Soon after their father's death in 1904, Vanessa Stephen, a painter, and her sister, Virginia, an aspiring novelist, began to host regular meetings for other wealthy young intellectuals at their London home. Known simply as Bloomsbury (the neighborhood in which the sisters lived), the salon became a haven for artists and writers — including many gays and bisexuals — who wanted to break free from the artistic and sexual restrictions of the era.

Bloomsbury's first members were the Cambridge University friends that Toby Stephen brought to his sisters' home for dinner — historian Lytton Strachey, economist John Maynard Keynes, and writers Clive Bell and Leonard Woolf. The guests in turn invited others to the group, including artist Duncan Grant, who had been sexually involved with both Strachey and Keynes. Within Bloomsbury, these gay men found support for their sexual orientation at a time when the imprisonment of playwright Oscar Wilde in 1895 for sodomy was still a very fresh memory.

The Bloomsbury group has gone down in history for the many contributions its members made to literature, art, and the social sci-

ences. The group's intellectual core was Virginia Stephen, who became Virginia Woolf when she married in 1912. Today she is recognized as one of the great modernist novelists. She and her husband, Leonard, founded Hogarth Press, a publishing house that brought some of the most significant literature of the era into print when no one else would, including T.S. Eliot's *The Wasteland*. In other fields, Keynes became one of the preeminent economists of his day, while Strachey achieved renown as a biographer.

But the romantic record of the group's members is also noteworthy, because they demonstrated a sexual freedom and fluidity that was remarkably ahead of their time. Beginning in 1925, Virginia Woolf had a passionate affair with the dashing Vita Sackville-West. In the first flush of romance, Woolf wrote what has become a classic of queer fiction, the experimental fantasy *Orlando* (1927), which argued that love and passion ignore gender, and that gender itself is fluid.

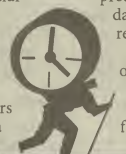
Others in the Bloomsbury group exhibited similar ambisexual tendencies. Although Vanessa Stephen married Clive Bell, the great love of her life was Duncan Grant, who was primarily gay and had been sexually involved with her brother Adrian. During World War I, they lived together at a country estate with David "Bunny" Garnett, who was lovers with both.

Triangular relationships with a queer twist were common within the Bloomsbury circle. Strachey was gay, but in the early days of

Bloomsbury, he proposed marriage to Virginia Stephen. In the 1920s, he lived in platonic bliss with surrealist painter Dora Carrington. When they both fell in love with the same man, Carrington married the object of their mutual desire, and the three set up housekeeping together. The cross-dressing Carrington had affairs with women, confiding to a friend that she had "more ecstasy" with female lovers than with men — "and no shame."

In the early years of Bloomsbury, Keynes was also exclusively gay. But in 1923 he shocked the group by marrying Russian ballerina Lydia Lopokova. The happy marriage seems to have made an ex-gay out of Keynes — according to one intimate, he never again pursued men sexually.

By most accounts, Bloomsbury lost its soul and its force when Virginia Woolf — who was plagued by mental illness throughout her life — drowned herself in 1941. Some members met sporadically until the 1950s, but without the same zeal. Today, their haunts and homes in the Bloomsbury district are part of the University of London. ▼



Past Out

### Suggested reading

Bell, Quentin. 1995. *Bloomsbury Recalled*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Marsh, Jan. 1995. *Bloomsbury Women: Distinct Figures in Life and Art*. New York: Henry Holt.

Todd, Pamela. 1999. *Bloomsbury at Home*. New York: Harry N. Abrams.

## Barnes

◀ page 2

the ability to connect with people from all walks of life," Rivaldo said.

Mayor Willie Brown noted that most people, if they knew Barnes for "more than two or three days" had mixed views about him, and even Brown became angry with Barnes on occasion.

"Robert Barnes was the ultimate executioner. He was absolutely devoted to public service and to say he's going to be missed is an understatement," Brown said.

Several of Barnes's longtime friends spoke at the service, including Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club member Carole Cullum, Bears of San Francisco President Mark Katzenberger, and Meagan Levitan. Levitan recalled how Barnes had introduced her to her

future husband, Dale Carlson. Several spoke of how devoted Barnes was to his partner, Carlos Molina.

Deputy City Attorney Matthew Rothschild, who was Barnes's best friend, also gave an emotional talk, and said that while the two were friends during victories, they were "best friends during defeats." Rothschild lost a 1996 bid for superior court judge; Barnes took him to Disneyland.

"We loved each other unconditionally," Rothschild added.

Barnes's three business partners also spoke. Mark Mosher, John Whitehurst, and Sam Lauter said that the firm, Barnes Mosher Whitehurst Lauter and Partners, would continue serving clients.

"Everywhere I go, I see Robert's footprints," Whitehurst said, adding that in addition to politicians, Barnes also worked on campaigns for many San Francisco

bond measures. "We will celebrate his message and we will continue to work with the community he cared about."

City Attorney Dennis Herrera and Supervisor Mark Leno were two of Barnes's most recent clients. Herrera won an upset victory last year, and Leno won the Democratic nomination for the 13th Assembly District in March.

Of all the speakers, it was Herrera who got off the best line of the evening when he recalled a hospital visit to Barnes.

"On gay Pride Day he gave us all a scare. He was lying in the hospital near death and Matthew [Rothschild] summoned a Catholic priest to administer last rites," Herrera said. "Robert said, 'Thank you, but sex is the last thing on my mind right now.'"

"It was vintage Robert," Herrera added. ▼

## Settlement

◀ page 1

da Legal, who with Peter Obstler at O'Melveny & Myers, filed suit on Henkle's behalf.

Reached Wednesday afternoon, Washoe County School District spokesman Steve Mulvenon told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the district is ready to move on. He said that on Tuesday night the school board approved new policies to establish training for staff and students. The district did not admit wrongdoing in the settlement.

"We did not enter into this settlement begrudgingly," Mulvenon said. "We firmly believe that the administrators at the high schools acted responsibly."

He said that there's "a wide gulf" between what Henkle said happened and what administrators maintain took place, but he added that the case never went to trial. Additionally, no depositions were taken in the case.

The district, Mulvenon said, is trying to focus on implementing the new policies "as rapidly as we can."

"Any student who walks onto our campus, whether they're gay

or straight, black or white, Muslim or whatever, deserve the right to be treated with dignity and respect, free of harassment."

According to attorney Obstler, 83 percent of gay high school students are verbally abused and 42 percent are beaten.

Lambda's Jon Davidson said that the settlement is "the farthest reaching settlement against a school and the largest settlement in history in a case of this kind."

Henkle now lives in San Francisco, and plans to enter American University in Washington, D.C. next year. ▼



## COMMENTARY

# The gay generation gap

by Paula Martinac

In one of her stand-up routines, lesbian comedian Kate Clinton used to joke about getting closer to the age when she'd no longer be marching in the gay Pride Parade but riding on the bus reserved for gay seniors. The closer I get to riding that bus myself, the more I am philosophical about age and interested in the topic of ageism among lesbians and gay men. We generally think of ageism as a sin that younger people commit against an older generation, by excluding seniors from decision-making roles or discounting the opinions of people over 60. But, in fact, ageism operates across a wide spectrum.

I'll admit, for example, that I have occasionally been guilty of haughtily assuming that anyone under 25 has nothing to offer intellectually or that queer youth have it easier just because they're growing up in the age of *Will & Grace*. At the same time, I have found myself trivialized by some lesbian and gay seniors who have made pronouncements like, "You're too young to know anything about this, of course, but in my day..." These attitudes stem from a lack of connection among the generations of lesbians and gay men and are, I think, profoundly self-defeating.

Granted, the country as a whole is segregated by age, so the lesbian and gay community is just mirroring the larger society. The fact is, people have different likes and dislikes at various stages of their lives, which makes intergenerational socializing and sharing a challenge. I haven't been to a lesbian bar in about 10 years, although I gave them a fair amount of business when I was in my 20s. "When I go to gay bars," one gay man in his mid-60s admitted to me, "I feel more than a generation or two removed."

While it may be difficult to navigate intergenerational friendships, it would be emotionally and politically beneficial for us to make the effort. Nancy Spannbauer, co-founder with her life partner, Ellen Ensig-Brodsky, of a New York-based senior sup-



Christine Smith

port group called Pride Senior Network, worked professionally in nursing homes for more than 20 years before retiring. "The people who are the happiest and are most enjoying their later years," she noted, "are the ones who have friends who are younger as well as friends their own age."

In addition, the lesbian and gay movement has much to gain politically when different generations are in dialogue with one another and not off in their own age-specific groups. Each generation — the pre-Stonewall folks, the baby boomers, and the under-30 crowd — has something unique to offer the rest of the community, which they've learned from their own particular era. At this year's Pride march in New York, one apt sign carried by gay seniors really summed this up — "Celebrate experience."

Lesbian and gay seniors can be role models to younger generations, especially in the area of relationships. Many same-sex couples have been together 10, 20, or 30 years, either in monogamous relationships or in open, mutually agreeable ones. But these older, long-term couples often aren't visible in the community, and the stereotype of lesbian and gay seniors as alone and lonely persists. "Younger lesbians and gay men think we fade away after 35," Ensig-Brodsky told me. "They need to know you can have a very productive life and close relationships."

It isn't only senior lesbians and gay men, though, who have something to offer from their life experiences. Assuming that mentors and role models have to be of a certain age is itself a form of ageism. Ensig-Brodsky has suggested that queer youth be sought out to teach seniors concrete technical skills. "We need young people to teach us computers," she stated. In fact, many lesbians and gay men under 35 are computer and Web whizzes, with skills enviable to a generation that grew up using manual typewriters and carbon paper.

Also, queer teens are often on the cutting edge of lesbian and gay organizing and can teach the rest of us about the challenges of coming out in hostile environments, such as some families and schools. I'm always moved by the stories of gay teenagers who take their same-sex partners to their high school proms — not just in San Francisco, but also in less traditionally queer-friendly places like Iowa and Indiana. They're mapping out new territory that people my age and older could only dream about when we were teens.

And what about my generation? We taught ourselves community organizing and fundraising and built national and local lesbian and gay organizations into a powerful movement with political clout. As we get further into middle age, we can turn our attention to defying ageism within the community by creating ways to share what we know and learn from the experiences of other generations. ▼

## Lesbian Notions

## Teacher

◀ page 2

in damages.

"What Himmelberg's actions and the school board's actions did was to intimidate people from ad-

ressing the horrible treatment gay, lesbian, and bisexual students get," Debro told the media the day he filed the lawsuit three years ago.

Some had also speculated that because other teachers were known to have controversial discussions without being disci-

plined, targeting Debro was in part racially motivated.

Debro, who had served as the school's gay-straight alliance adviser, received GLSEN's 1998 Pathfinder Award for his efforts to create an educational environment free from discrimination. ▼

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(SF Weekly, May 15)

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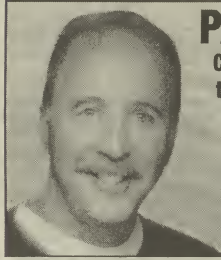
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# CarShare program has growing pains

by Matthew S. Bajko

As demand for its program continues to grow within the Castro and Noe Valley areas, City CarShare is scrambling to find adequate space to park additional vehicles within the boundaries of supervisorial District 8.

Already occupying two spaces in the parking lot behind the Walgreens on Castro Street, City CarShare this month expanded its number of spaces from five to seven at California Pacific Medical Center's Davies Campus on the corner of 14th and Noe streets.

It also announced it has a one-year agreement to park its cars at the Glen Park BART station where members can now access two of its vehicles.

The program has also approached Safeway to add a pod of its cars at the grocery chain's Mar-

ket Street location, requested Cala Market to allow it to utilize that chain's 18th Street store's parking garage, and is negotiating with Walgreens to park its vehicles in the parking lot adjacent to its Noe Valley store.

The program is focusing its efforts within the city's gay district because, "We have so many of our members who live in the Castro," said Annie Bourdon, CarShare's outreach manager. "It is amazing how many of our members work in the Castro."

Within the city's 94114 ZIP code, which covers most of the Castro and Noe Valley, City CarShare counts 275 members, more than double the number of members who live in the city's 94133 ZIP code, which covers North Beach.

Bourdon attributes the program's favor among Castro residents to its convenience and to the type of cars it uses - Volkswagens.

"A lot of people like the green

Beetles. We have had a lot of members say they have joined because of the cars," she said.

Plus the program's philosophy is geared to the social sensibilities of many queer residents, she added.

"This is progressive and it's trying to make life more carefree by not having the hassle of a car," she said. "Living in the Castro is so packed. Even if you are trying to return the car over at 18th and Castro it can be a problem."

Expanding the program's parking spaces within the Castro has not been easy. Parking remains a permanent problem in the area, and merchants and neighbors are loathe to lose even one space.

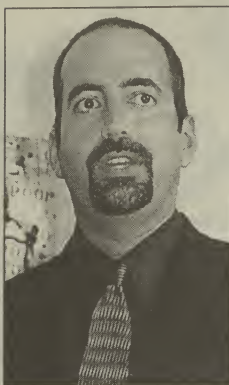
"In terms of other locations in the Castro, we continue to have some issues with" the parking lot behind Walgreens, said Bourdon. "There is not a lot of animosity but people continue to park in our spaces in that lot there."

One idea the program is willing to pursue is parking its cars in residents' driveways or spare parking spaces on their properties. While it has yet to work out such a deal, Bourdon said the program is willing to entertain such a proposal.

"If you are a homeowner and you want to give up your car or have an extra parking space such as where you can pull up to the garage without being inside, then we would do a swap with CarShare membership with a parking space," she explained. "Whatever works with the neighborhood will work for us. We want to do that in the Castro."

In working with BART board member Tom Radulovich, the program has gained an ally in the district. Radulovich, an openly gay

candidate for the District 8 supervisor seat, said CarShare is a benefit to both merchants and residents of the district.



Supé candidate Tom Radulovich

"CarShare members get rid of a car. It means fewer cars parked in the neighborhood and folks are encouraged to take public transit," said Radulovich. "The cars don't get parked in neighborhoods so there is a real net gain for parking spaces in the city."

He said merchants could also benefit from having CarShare vehicles near their stores thereby reducing the need for them to drive their own vehicles to work and freeing up parking for their customers.

"A lot of cars parked in neighborhood commercial districts are cars parked by merchants who need them to run errands. By becoming CarShare members, merchants are sharing the same

pool of cars instead of each of them parking cars," said Radulovich.

Eileen Hansen, who is also running for the District 8 supervisor seat, is also a supporter of the CarShare program and said she welcomes seeing more of the green Beetles in the district.

"I want to do everything I can to convince people not to have their own cars in the city," she said. "A greater good is served by doing that, although not everyone is going to be happy in losing their parking space."

While he hasn't seen the program's plans for new spaces, District 8 supervisor candidate Bevan Duffy, who ran Mayor Willie Brown's Office of Neighborhood Services, said there is always a trade-off involved anytime parking is removed.

"If you can promote car sharing it is a great thing," he said. "But merchants depend upon foot traffic and shoppers that come by vehicle."

For that reason, Castro merchants remain wary of the CarShare program taking away any more spaces in city-owned parking lots in the shopping district.

"Parking is an issue period. Frankly, those spots [behind Walgreens] currently either house their cars or they are empty. So it is not like they bring somebody into the neighborhood. The cars go out of the neighborhood," said Patrick Batt, president of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro.

The program is willing to work with merchants and residents to address their concerns, said Bourdon.

"We would like to see some alternative so it isn't perceived that we are taking spaces away," she said. ▽

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by Matthew S. Bajko

As other groups, such as child care providers and disabled residents, fret that their state funding will dry up come September due to the Legislature's inability to pass a budget, people living with HIV and AIDS need not fear their medications paid for by the government will run out.

State Controller Kathleen Connell ruled this week that California's AIDS Drug Assistance Program will be able to continue expending funds after September 1, despite the fact that the state has been without a budget since July 1.

Fearing that the current budget impasse in the state Assembly would result in a disruption in ADAP, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation began lobbying Connell earlier this month to consider writing checks for the program after September 1. To help make its case, the foundation asked Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) to also call Connell and request her to continue to fund ADAP.

"It was absolutely essential that ADAP continue to meet the health needs of Californians living with HIV and AIDS," said Dana Van Gorder, SFAF's director of state and local affairs. "It took them some time to make a decision but they needed to make sure they were on solid footing."

ADAP was established in October 1987 to provide drugs to individuals who otherwise could not afford them. The drugs provided by ADAP have been determined to prolong quality of life and to delay the deterioration of health among individuals infected with HIV.

During the 2001-2002 fiscal year, California's ADAP program totaled \$162.1 million, with \$59.9 million in state funds and \$162.1 million from federal Ryan White CARE Act funds. A state law permits the program to continue to expend funds only until September 1 in any year when the Legislature and governor have failed to agree to a budget by July 1. However, Connell decided that because the program, which provides HIV medications to some 14,000 low-income Californians each month, is also a federal program, it may continue to expend funds in the absence of a state budget.

The potential funding problem remained unknown to many people who benefit from ADAP, said Van Gorder. But when the Assembly remained at an impasse over the budget in early August, the foundation began to worry that ADAP would be caught in the cross-hairs of Republican and Democratic lawmakers unwilling to compromise on the budget during an election year.

"We didn't hear a lot of concern. People were not necessarily aware this problem did exist," said

Van Gorder. "We started worrying about the whole matter on August 1. It was clear there wasn't a budget and there could be a problem."

If Connell did not agree to fund ADAP after September 1, Van Gorder said the foundation was fearful pharmacies would not fill patients' prescriptions, reasoning that the state would not pay the bills. In San Francisco, approximately 3,100 people access the ADAP program each month, according to the program's coordinator, Herman Levias.

"We were not close to having a serious problem but we just wanted to make sure there wasn't going to be one at all," said Van Gorder.

As state lawmakers look to find a compromise to end the budget deadlock, Van Gorder said there is no indication that additional funding for the ADAP program will be scrapped. Governor Davis agreed with HIV/AIDS advocates to place \$22.4 million in his proposed state budget for the 2002-2003 fiscal year to assure that ADAP can continue to meet growing enrollment for the program and the increased cost of HIV medications.

"There doesn't seem to be any problems with that. Everything else seems to be under control," said Van Gorder, who was in Sacramento this week lobbying legislators before the end of the legislative session this month. ▽

## ADAP payments OK'd



# Legislature takes action on LGBT bills

by Joe Dignan

The California Legislature has passed three gay rights bills in the frenetic last week of the legislative session and sent them to Governor Gray Davis, while Republicans and conservative Democrats in the Assembly have potentially stalled two other major ones.

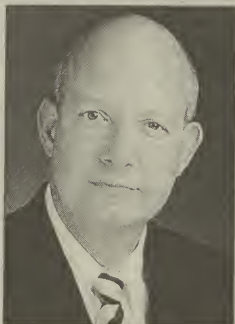
The legislative session is wrapping up with hundreds of bills pending and is scheduled to end on Saturday, August 31. Any bills not passed by then will automatically die, and the Assembly has yet to pass a state budget.

Two of the three bills passed by the Legislature allow some marriage-like rights for domestic partners. The third prohibits discrimination in foster care.

The first stalled bill is a statewide equal benefits ordinance, similar to San Francisco's landmark law. The second stalled bill is a constitutional amendment that would extend the benefits of Proposition 13 to surviving domestic partners or other joint tenants in a property.

Two of the bills that made it through the Legislature provide expanded rights for the 13,000 registered domestic partners in California if one partner dies.

AB2216, authored by Assemblyman Fred Keeley (D-Boulder Creek) and sponsored by the California Alliance for Pride and Equality, an LGBT lobbying organization, would give domestic partners the same inheritance



Assemblyman Fred Keeley

rights as spouses if one partner dies without a will.

At the hearings on the bill, CAPE offered many anecdotes of a surviving partner being disinherited. One was the case of Jeffrey Collman, a flight attendant on American Airlines Flight 11 that crashed into the World Trade Center on September 11. Collman, a resident of Novato, and his domestic partner, Keith Bradkowski, had lived together for 11 years, but because Collman left no will, his entire estate will go to his parents. American Airlines also refused to allow Bradkowski to collect death benefits normally provided to heirs, even though he was named as Collman's beneficiary for other purposes.

AB2777, by Assemblyman Joe Nation (D-San Rafael), will allow the Marin, Santa Barbara, and Los Angeles County boards of supervisors to provide domestic partners

of deceased county employees with the same death benefits as spouses.

A 1937 state law governs the operation of 20 county retirement systems that require state approval to change the way they work. If Davis signs AB2777, the three counties will join San Francisco and San Mateo as the only counties in the state offering these benefits.

The third bill passed, AB2651, by Assemblywoman Judy Chu (D-Monterey Park) and also sponsored by CAPE, would prohibit discrimination in foster care.

The bill requires sensitivity to sexual orientation, gender identity and, according to the language of the bill, "the challenges faced by gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender youth, or youth with gender issues."

AB2651 became a focal point for debate about the validity of gay and lesbian lifestyles, with opponents, like Assemblyman Dennis Mountjoy (R-Monrovia) saying, "All this does is tell kids that it's okay to be gay. Well, it's not okay to be gay."

Transgender groups have been particularly strong supporters of the measure because of the difficulties that youth with gender identity questions have in the foster care system.

Vanessa Edwards Foster, board chair of the Houston-based National Transgender Advocacy Coalition, said, "If you have a child who has gender issues, a lot of times the foster parents will try and conform them into societal gender stereotypes. This is pretty much true for any parent, but for

foster parents, there's often less concern for a child's feelings.

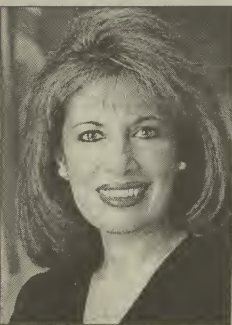
"But when they have a child that has gender differences or sexual orientation differences, they don't know how to handle it. They usually won't try and seek out any information."

## Stalled bills

As of press time, two major LGBT bills were in trouble.

AB1080, the state's equal benefits ordinance, by Assemblywoman Christine Kehoe (D-San Diego), would require all state contractors to offer the same benefits to domestic partners as they do to spouses.

It was introduced late, in June, and the Senate passed it, 21-11, on Tuesday, August 27. It then headed to the Assembly for concurrence. But the bill's supporters are worried that it might get lost in the shuffle as the session winds up.



State Senator Jackie Speier

"The only concern that I see in the Assembly is that there are only four days left to get bills through," said Geoff Kors, CAPE's interim executive director. "It was never heard in an Assembly committee. We're hopeful it can be sent straight to the floor for concurrence."

"We've had the majority of support on all our other bills. I'm cautiously optimistic that we'll have the votes in the Assembly," Kors said.

Lastly, SCA-9, the state constitutional amendment by Speier to grant domestic partners and other joint tenants the same rights as spouses under Proposition 13, is stuck in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

"The Republican leadership has taken aim at several controversial bills. Unfortunately SCA-9 has been caught in that quagmire," said Erin Ryan, a legislative aide to Speier.

In general though, according to CAPE's Kors, while there still is a great deal of homophobia among some legislators, there's been a dramatic change in the attitude in Sacramento toward LGBT legislation.

"In 1998, we didn't have non-discrimination in housing and employment. There was no domestic partners registry. There were no benefits for domestic partners on a state level. There was no law banning discrimination and harassment in public schools based on sex or gender orientation. Now we hear homophobic comments from a member of the Assembly, but our bills pass 2-1," Kors said. ▼

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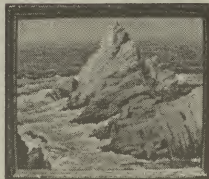
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# Boulder summit a first for LGBTI health advocates

by Liz Highleyman

**M**ore than 300 gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and intersex people and their allies gathered August 21-25 in Boulder, Colorado, for the National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Intersex Health Summit 2002. The summit brought together health advocates, activists, healthcare professionals, service providers, researchers, policy makers, and others to explore a wide range of health and wellness issues of interest to the queer community.

Organized by a volunteer collective representing the broad diversity of the queer community, the summit filled a gap left by the discontinuation after some 20 years of the annual conference put on by the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association; two Gay Men's Health Summits took place in Boulder in 1999 and 2000, and several regional gay men's health meetings took place in 2001.

With an estimated 175 institutes, workshops, panel discussions, and plenary sessions featuring many well-known researchers, authors, and health advocates, the summit covered the full gamut of LGBTI health issues, from the needs of queer youth to same-sex parenting to the issues of lesbian and bi women facing menopause and aging gay men. Body image, depression, same-sex domestic vi-



From left, Chris Mann, Richard Elovich, Patricia Case, and Alan Brown at the health summit.

olence, and healthy anal sex were among the many topics discussed.

Conference participants also heard reports from the XIV International AIDS Conference in Barcelona and the queer disability conference held in June. Several sessions looked at international aspects of the LGBTI health movement, with presenters from Australia, Canada, Japan, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

The 2002 summit was the first queer health gathering at which bisexual, transgender, and intersex issues were a major focus, and in

which bi, trans, and intersex people played an integral role in the planning process. The first conference plenary was devoted to intersex issues and why they matter to the queer health movement. Cheryl Chase and Emi Koyama discussed the intersex agenda, emphasizing that intersex advocates are not arguing for the abolition of gender or that children with intersex conditions should not be assigned a gender at birth. Rather, said Chase, doctors and parents should make their "best guess" about a child's future gender, but

should not perform surgery to correct indeterminate genitalia and should be open to the possibility that the child's gender identity may change.

Another new feature was a full track of workshops focusing on drug use, harm reduction, and treatment in the queer community, including a session on the history and meaning of drug use in the gay circuit party scene.

"We need to address pleasure and desire as well as risk," said Richard Elovich, a professor of public health at the City University of New York. "Harm reduction is not about ideology, it's about facing reality."

Pleasure and desire were themes throughout the conference. Anna Forbes, of the Global Campaign for Microbicides, and Chris Bartlett led a session on the development of microbicides and how they might be used by gay men to prevent disease transmission during anal sex. For example, do men who bareback simply dislike condoms, or does unprotected sex hold deeper meanings? Might anal microbicides offer a compromise between condom use and throwing caution to the wind?

"Microbicides are harm reduction," said Forbes. "Studying and funding microbicides is a no-brainer, even if they do not provide 100 percent protection."

In welcoming participants to the summit, organizing collective member Marj Plumb encouraged them to "go outside of your comfort zone" to learn about the issues of people different from themselves. Several workshops encouraged such cross-pollination, including a session on how "gay community" is defined differently by men of different generations, a dialogue between gay and bisexual men, and a conversation between queer female-to-male transmen and non-trans gay and bi men.

Friday's plenary looked at the history of the LGBTI health movement, where it is now, and where it is headed. Workshops on the lesbian health movement and AIDS activism explored the lessons to be learned from earlier movements. Organizers and participants expressed the desire to build a diverse, grassroots queer health movement – and to push LGBTI groups to include health

issues and health organizations to include LGBTI issues.

"During the past decade it has felt as if the locus of control of an LGBTI health agenda was moving away from our communities and more and more toward governmental bodies," said summit convener Eric Rofes. "Our efforts to professionalize our movement and support the creation of networks of queers working within public health systems, queer elected officials, queer executive directors of AIDS and LGBTI organizations, and queer academic researchers cannot do the work of a health movement that puts people on the street making demands and holding public officials accountable."

Participants came away from the summit with plans to organize separate gay, lesbian, transgender, and other meetings in odd-numbered years – the next Gay Men's Health Summit is already being planned for 2003 – and unified LGBTI summits in alternate years.

A theme of the earlier gay men's health summits was looking beyond AIDS to other health issues that affect the community. At this year's summit the focus was even broader, looking beyond pathologies and problems to address wellness and strengths of the LGBTI community – what organizing collective member T. Scott Pegues called an "empowered, asset-based, wellness model of health."

"Our communities are harmed tremendously by portraying them as diseased. Is it possible to truly empower when we consistently represent a community utilizing deficit-based constructs?" asked Rofes. "Let's think of LGBTI people as resilient and creative and persevering more often than we think of our people as damaged."

The summit, hosted by the Boulder County AIDS Program, was sponsored by the Gill Foundation and Bristol-Myers Squibb; the Astrea National Lesbian Action Foundation provided scholarship support. ▼

For more information or to get involved in planning for future health summits, visit [www.healthsummit2002.org](http://www.healthsummit2002.org) or e-mail: [lgbtihealthsummit2002@aol.com](mailto:lgbtihealthsummit2002@aol.com)

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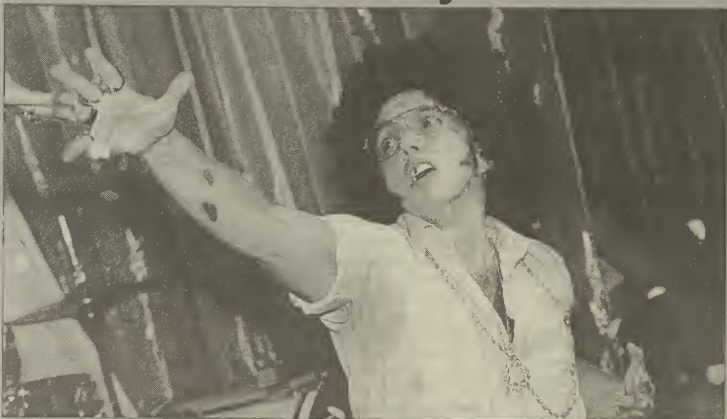
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## Crowd's a little Rusty



**R**usty Hips performs during Drag Strip's seventh annual San Francisco Drag King contest held Thursday, August 22. Rusty later won the crown before a wild, sold-out crowd, besting 11 other contenders.

## 'Misfits' launch queer performance tour

by Zak Szymanski

**L**GBT music and literature fans have for years followed the work of Lambda Award-winning author Michelle Tea (*Valencia*, *The Passionate Mistakes* and *Intimate Corruption of One Girl In America*); writers/performance Bucky Sinister and Tara Jepsen; and the queer tranny hip-hop band The End of The World. On Sunday, September 1, the historic "Stromboli's Island of Donkeys and Dolls" show packages all these artists under one roof as they kick off their cross-country tour at San Francisco's Kimo's, 1351 Polk Street, at 9 p.m.

The tour coincides with the release of Tea's newest novel, *The Chelsea Whistle*, published by Seal Press. Tea, who is also known as a founding member of the all-girl spoken word troupe Sister Spit,

was an honorary marshal of this year's San Francisco Pride Parade. Sinister, whose work includes *King of the Roadkill* (Manic D Press), was the longtime host of San Francisco's open poetry readings at the Chameleon. Jepsen, herself a Sister Spitster and well-known writer, hosts K'Vetch, the Bay Area's longest running queer open mic event. And The End of the World—which includes the poet/performance Rocco Kayiatos, Ricky Lee, and Mark Schaeffer—has performed at various venues and is featured on the infamous *Sugar High*, *Glitter City* soundtrack.

Admission to Sunday's event at Kimo's is \$5, and includes performances by all of the above artists, plus special guest writer/musician Beth Lisick. The tour, inspired both by Pinocchio's soul-searching journey to Pleasure Island, and the Island of Misfit Toys featured in the classic holiday television special *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, is



'Stromboli's Island of Donkeys and Dolls'

a celebration of "misfits and underdogs in art, music, and literature," according to organizers. "Girls, boys, and in-betweens; queer, het-ero, and who-gives-a-crap, there is something for everyone beneath the Stromboli big-top." ▼

## Drug use and harm reduction a focus at Boulder health summit

by Liz Highleyman

**T**he National LGBTI Health Summit 2002 featured a full track of workshops devoted to drug use, harm reduction, and substance abuse treatment and recovery in the queer community.

"We need to address pleasure and desire as well as risk," said track coordinator Richard Elovich of the City University of New York. "Harm reduction is not about ideology, it's about facing reality."

Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies that reduce negative consequences of drug use, incorporating a spectrum of strategies from safer use to managed use to abstinence. Harm reduction strategies meet drug users "where they're at," addressing conditions of use along with the use itself.

Last Saturday's plenary session discussed the spectrum of drug use in the LGBTI community. Electronic Dreams Foundation President Alan Brown talked about the need to come out of the closet about drug use.

"The shame that surrounds illegal drug use and the stigmatizing and devaluing of people who

use illegal drugs is killing people, stifling our ability to communicate effectively about drugs, and preventing people from getting smarter about managing their own drug experiences," he said.

Gay men are often portrayed as heavy drug users, and indeed a study by Ron Stall of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showed that some 50 percent of gay men in large U.S. cities had used drugs within the past six months. However, noted Stall, "the proportion who get into trouble is triflingly small." Those that do typically are dealing with other issues such as violence, mental illness, or economic marginalization. "We have to stop looking at drug use as a stand-alone problem," said Stall.

One workshop focused on the connection between the LGBTI health movement and the drug law reform movement. "If the queer health movement is going to be a social justice movement, we can't afford to not look critically at the war on drug users," said Dancesafe Executive Director Tim Santamour.

There was some tension between proponents of harm reduction and substance abuse treat-

ment. Representatives of the U.S. Center for Substance Abuse Treatment presented the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's new document, "A Providers Introduction to Substance Abuse Treatment for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Individuals." While many appreciated the effort, others criticized the government for refusing to acknowledge the value of harm reduction. Many expressed concern about binary thinking concerning recovery and harm reduction, which they believe are not polar opposites but rather two points on a spectrum.

"Recovery is not necessarily abstinence," said the Reverend John Magisano of SpeakOUT: LGBT Voices for Recovery. "It's whatever you do to improve your quality of life."

Adopting a theme of the summit, several speakers encouraged an asset-based rather than a deficit-based view of LGBTI drug use.

"Drugs may be used for healing, to overcome personal loss, and to deal with tragedy," emphasized Harvard researcher Patricia Case. "It's my vow to never speak about risk without talking about resilience." ▼

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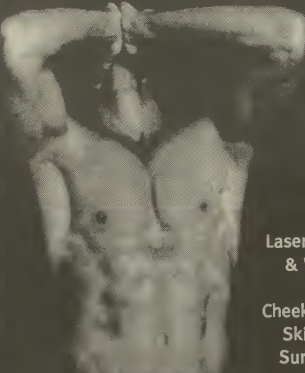
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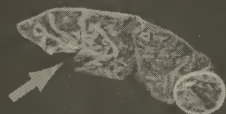
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# Creating a guardianship for your child

by Kim Harris, Outreach  
Attorney

The following is an occasional column compiled by the AIDS Legal Referral Panel on issues of concern to people living with AIDS.

Dear ALRP:

I am a single mother of an 8-year-old. My health status has gone from disabling HIV to AIDS and my doctor fears the worst. He has informed me that I should get my affairs in order. I understand that I must distribute my personal property in a will, but what do I do about my son? His father has made it quite clear he does not want to be a part of his son's life. Who will take care of my son when I can no longer do so?

Signed,

Distraught Parent

Dear Distraught Parent:

You are in the process of making one of the most difficult decisions a parent has to make. Although you might like to put this off, it is in the best interest of your son to take care of this now. You need to nominate a guardian in your will so that upon your death the court will have an understanding of your wishes.

### What is a guardianship?

When a parent wants to make arrangements for the custody of a minor, a parent may nominate a guardian. A guardianship is a judicial proceeding that appoints custody of a minor to an adult. The guardian steps into the role of the parent when the parent or parents can no longer meet that obligation.

### Types of guardianships

You must keep in mind that a parent has dual roles. A parent manages the personal and financial affairs of a minor. Therefore, you must determine what type of guardianship is needed. There are two types of guardianships: a guardian of the minor and a guardian of the minor's estate. Guardianship of the minor's estate allows the guardian to manage the minor's financial affairs. This usually comes into play when the minor has a substantial estate. The second type is guardianship of the minor, which allows the guardian to step into the shoes of the parent by overseeing the personal care of the minor. It is more likely that you will need to nominate a

### guardian of the minor. Choosing a guardian

Once you have decided what type of guardianship your child needs, you then need to choose a guardian. Remember that this person will be responsible for your son, so you may want to make sure that you nominate a person who holds values and perspective similar to yours. The prospective guardian must be capable of looking out for the welfare of the minor (i.e. shelter, food, clothing and medical care), supervising the minor's conduct, and determining where the minor will reside and what school the minor will attend. Therefore, you should consider the following list of questions when choosing a guardian:

- Is the prospective guardian willing to take on the task?
- Is there an existing relationship between the minor and prospective guardian?
- Would the age of the prospective guardian be considered a disadvantage?
- Is the prospective guardian mature and capable of assessing the needs of the minor?
- Will the prospective guardian be able to provide an upbringing similar to what you have provided?
- Are the values and beliefs of the prospective guardian regarding education and religion acceptable to you?

Once you have chosen a prospective guardian you must have your nomination reflected in your will. However, under California Probate Code section 1500, the nomination of a third party in the custodial parent's will can only be effective with the consent of the non-custodial parent. There are exceptions to the consent requirement such as death of the non-custodial parent or abandonment by the noncustodial parent. Under California Family Code section 8604, abandonment occurs when a parent has willfully failed to contact and support the minor for over a year.

### Joint guardianship

Rather than nominating a prospective guardian to take over upon the death of the custodial parent, you may establish a joint guardianship. Under California Probate Code section 2105(f), if the custodial parent has a terminal

illness that is evidenced by a declaration executed by a physician, the court may allow a joint guardianship. A joint guardianship occurs when one custodial parent nominates another person to be joint guardian with the custodial parent. This allows for continuity after the death of the custodial parent.

### Preparation needed

If you are a single parent and have not made preparation for your son before your death, two results may occur. In the first scenario, your son's father, a family member, or a close friend may petition the court for custody. In the second

scenario, the court may decide that the surviving parent, relative, or close friend is unwilling, unavailable, or unfit to have custody of a minor. If the court makes this determination, the minor will become a dependent of the court and the court will grant custody to the local social services agency.

Whatever you decide to do I encourage you to speak with an attorney to explore your options and rights. For further assistance, please contact the Alameda County Guardianship Clinic at (510) 893-7160 for Alameda County residents or Legal Services for Children at (415) 863-3762 for residents of San Francisco.

Since 1983, ALRP has provided free and low-cost legal services for people with HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area. ALRP provides direct services and referrals to HIV-sensitive panel attorneys. ALRP can assist you in a variety of matters, including credit and bankruptcy, insurance and employee benefits, wills and powers of attorney, landlord-tenant relations and housing issues, government benefits, employment, confidentiality, and establishing child guardianship. This article is not intended as legal advice for your specific situation. ▼

Do you have any legal questions? Call ALRP at (415) 701-1100 or (510) 451-5353; or write: 1663 Mission Street, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94103. For specific questions regarding housing call (415) 701-1200, ext. 314. To find out more about ALRP visit the Web site at [www.alrp.org](http://www.alrp.org).

## Hansen

◀ page 3

elect a warrior for justice."

Hansen, who has worked as public policy director with the AIDS Legal Referral Panel and is currently an organization development consultant for community-based nonprofits, has also been involved with the California Alliance for Pride and Equality and served as public policy director for the Women's AIDS Network. She also served as vice president of the San Francisco Building Inspection Commission and was a co-founder of the Progressive Alliance.

Last week, she was pleased with

the turnout at her kickoff.

"We came within 712 votes two years ago," she said, referring to her narrow margin of defeat. "This time, we are going to find those 712 votes and more and win in November."

Hansen said that she has qualified for public financing, a concept she has long supported. One of her opponents, Dufty, has turned down public financing because of the city's budget woes.

"It's how we reprioritize the budget," Hansen said. "And in my mind, campaign finance should be one of those priorities. So I'm honored to accept public financing."

Hansen said that housing is at the top of her list of issues. She

opposes Supervisor Gavin Newsom's Care Not Cash ballot measure and said that more mental health services need to be made available for those homeless people who need such services. She supports Ammiano's Exits from Homelessness, which commits the city to securing 1,000 units of affordable housing and 700 units of drug treatment.

"I also bring to the board a history of consensus building," she said. "We can disagree, but we need to do so in a respectful manner." ▼

To volunteer or for more information, call (415) 552-0345 or visit [www.eileenhanzenSF8.com](http://www.eileenhanzenSF8.com).



## OBITUARIES

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

## Daniel Eugene Hernandez



On Wednesday, July 17th, 2002, Daniel Hernandez passed on after battling AIDS. He was 38 years old.

Daniel was a remarkable hairdresser and make-up artist, having worked in salons in San Francisco, New York City, Salt Lake City and Denver, who could make someone with six hairs look like a runway model in no time. Aside from the glamour industry, Daniel was an avid gardener, loved to travel, decorate and shop, and could tell a story that would knock your socks (and possibly other articles of clothing) off. To him, children were the most important thing in the world. He fought adamantly for the safety of children and the capture and conviction of child molesters, having been a survivor of abuse himself.

Daniel was born in Texas on February 8th, 1964, and grew up there and in Utah; he came to California in his late teens and decided to stay. He worked at several different salons throughout the city over the years, trying to make San Francisco a more beautiful place, one

head at a time.

His ashes will be spread off the coast on September 20th, so that he will always be a part of the Bay Area that he fell in love with the first time he saw it as a child.

He leaves behind his partner of over six years, Joseph Jakubowski of Oakland, his kitty Leihuu, sisters Dana, Melissa, Yvette, Gloria, Sandy and Cynthia, all of Utah, his mother Estefena and many, many loving nephews, nieces, and friends who are going to miss him a-lotta lot! He was preceded in death by his father and a nephew.

## Jay Hice



Following several months of active Hepatitis B and HIV, Jay Hice passed away on July 19 at Davies Medical Center in the company of friends Mack Hicks, Peter

Oshinski, and Roy Perkel. Born June 1, 1956 in Carlsbad, New Mexico, Jay was an out-front gay youth and became a founder of the Gay Lib movement at New Mexico State at Las Cruces in 1979. He majored in nuclear engineering and began work at General Electric in San Jose. When personal computers became popular in business, he became a successful independent software contractor in San Francisco. Jay was a pioneer of the Silicon age leading several software development forums.

He never let his HIV-induced disability limit his joy of motorcycle riding. From his teenage years as a motocross competitor to his multiple cross country motorcycle trips, Jay was devoted to riding. Many will remember him cruising into the Castro and parking across from the Cove for lunch with friends. Jay was also a leader in the leather community; Jay co-founded the SF Pegasus Motorcycle Club and was road captain of the Shanti Ride for Life 2001.

From his 20th and Castro apartment of 20 years, Jay would ride his motorcycle into the Castro and Folsom capturing the hearts of men. The love of his life, Mark Cross, died in 1994, but his love for Mark never faded. Jay is sur-

vived by his brothers in New Mexico, Don and Michael, his adopted Cross family in Vermont, loving friends in Montreal, and his many motorcycle friends including Ken Ingram.

A memorial for Jay Hice will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, 28 September in the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco.

## Roger P. Steelman

Roger P. Steelman died at his residence in San Diego, California on August 21, 2002 from complications of AIDS. He was a retired United States Air Force sergeant, avid SCUBA diver, photographer and artist.

Mr. Steelman was born January 27, 1963 in Camden, New Jersey, the son of Jeanne Grover Steelman and the late Albert T. Steelman, Jr. He is survived by his mother, two sisters, Sarah S. Wells of Charlotte, North Carolina and Jennifer S. Wohlhab of Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina and one brother, Jonathan K. Steelman of Lufkin, France. Family and friends will join in farewells at the cliffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to "The Center for NYC," 3909 Centre Street, San Diego, California, 92103. Memo should read: "In Memory of Roger Steelman".

The family would like to extend special thanks to Mr. Michael D'Allo, Mr. Charles Evans, Mr. Bruce Hassell and Mr. John Kozjak for their extraordinary love and support.

## Jeffrey Scott Williamson

Our loved son, brother, uncle, cousin and friend left this world on July 12, 2002. He was holding his mother's hand in Tucson, Arizona.

Jeff was born on January 31, 1970 in Great Falls, Montana. He lived in Great Falls until he was eight. He then moved to Helena where he attended Helena Middle School and Helena High School. He was an exchange student during his Junior year of High School where he spent the year in Brazil. He was a state champion in speech in the humorous oral interpretation category. He then attended Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon.

Jeff worked in several different ca-

pacities during his life. He was a group home leader, a salesperson at a large department store, and a manager of a paper store while working his way through college. During his professional career, Jeffrey was a web-site marketer, a Sales manager for a luxury transportation company, a marketing director for a telecommunications networking company, and a caterer.

Jeff was survived by his mother Barbara L. Bartell, of Tucson, Arizona, his father Gary C. Williamson, of Great Falls, Montana, his brother G. Todd Williamson, of Bozeman, Montana, his two nephews, Geran Todd Williamson and Elliott Jeffrey Williamson.

Jeff will always be remembered for his late night seven-course meals. He loved to spend the entire evening cooking, talking with friends, and having a good time. Jeff had started putting ideas

together for a cookbook in the past month. He did not get the chance to finish writing the cookbook, but he did finish picking the recipes that wanted to go in the book. His family asks that you forward your favorite recipe that Jeff had prepared for you or that you prepared for him along with the story of the time you enjoyed that meal. If you have any other special memories or pictures of Jeff we welcome those as well to be included in the cookbook. These recipes and stories will be put together for a cookbook in Jeff's memory.

Services will be held at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Francisco on Geary Street on Saturday, August 31, 2002 at 1:00 p.m.

Please send memorials to the Jeffrey Scott Williamson Memorial Fund at First Interstate Bank, P.O. Box 10910, Bozeman, MT 59719.

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# Another Beat goes down

## Reading Friday to celebrate Philip Whalen

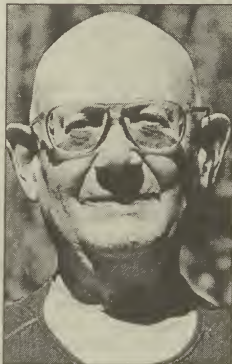
by Mark Mardon

One of the nation's leading poets, Philip Whalen, who was both a legend of the Beat era and a prominent figure for many years in the Eureka Valley/Castro neighborhood as abbot of the Hartford Street Zen Center, will be memorialized in a public reading this Friday, August 30, to be attended by many celebrated poets.

The free public reading by such luminaries of the poetry scene as Michael McClure, Diane DiPrima, and Leslie Scalapino will take place Friday from 7-10 p.m. at Presentation Theater (formerly the Gershwin Theater), 2350 Turk Street (near Masonic). Hundreds of Whalen's friends and admirers are expected to attend.

In addition, a Zen Buddhist memorial service will be held for Zenshin Philip Whalen (his formal title as abbot) at Green Gulch Farms and Zen Center, located at 1601 Shoreline Highway (Highway 1), just south of Muir Beach, on Sunday, September 1 at 2:30 p.m., with Richard Baker Roshi officiating.

Whalen, who died on June 26 at the age of 78, was one of the original Beat poets along with Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, Gary Snyder, Lew Welch, and others (he roomed with Snyder and Welch at Reed College). He was born October 20, 1923 in Portland, Oregon, and wrote



Philip Whalen

more than 20 books of poetry and two novels. He was ordained as a Zen Buddhist priest in 1973, and in 1991 he succeeded Issan Dorsey as abbot of the Hartford Street Zen Center, a small Buddhist center in the Soto Zen tradition founded in 1981 by a group of gay and lesbian Buddhists. The center continues to open its Zendo daily to the community for formal meditations.

In a memoir prepared by his friends, Whalen is described as "crusty, full of contrasts, unpredictably wise. He never tried to hide himself, no matter what his mood was. He engendered trust, but not complacency. He was unconventional, but also an old school gentleman."

"He never gay identified, but he was a mystery sexually to everybody," said fellow poet Rick London, a member of the board of Hartford Street Zen Center, who was with Whalen when he died. London is helping to organize Friday's reading, along with the Poetry Center at San Francisco State University and others.

"He was open to everybody and treated everybody the same, which is to say fairly," added London.

In one of several Web sites devoted to Whalen's memory, www.jackmagazine.com, Michael Rothenberg writes: "The degree of respect and admiration the Beats had for Whalen is remarkable. He was adored by Kerouac, who found him easy to be with and confide in ... Ginsberg considered Whalen the only Zen Master Poet practicing in America."

At another tribute site, www.everydayzen.org, close friend Zoketsu Norman Fischer writes: "Philip was a notorious and elegant complainer, but he bore his decline with a lot of dignity. He had no truck with the 'death and dying' movement. He just wanted to keep on living as long as possible with as much enjoyment as he could find in daily living – which he did do."

For more information, visit the Hartford Street Zen Center Web site at www.hartfordstreetzen.com. ▼

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# Talk of the town

by Jim Provenzano

It's great being the toast of the town — well, perhaps the crouton — with my ears happily burning. Having been a tad busy to call more Gay Games-bound jocks last weekend, let's dish some sports gossip.

## Back track

Apparently the *Genre* article about African American track star

Derrick Peterson has not turned out to be so gay after all.

Peterson, who asked to be called "Deric" in the gay magazine, denies he is gay in a recent issue of *Sports Illustrated*, and in response to a newspaper article about his allegedly being gay.

Claiming he was "experimenting," and is now "100 percent straight," Peterson's story was published by the *Daily Pennsylvanian* (the newspaper of the University of Pennsylvania) in July, by

a runner who himself was coming out. Peterson posted a vehement response on the paper's online discussion board:

"First of all I want to let the world know the truth and that I (AM) NOT GAY (get it right for God sake) [sic] and stop making me out to be something that I am not. I admitted that I like Men and I like women (I currently have a GIRLFRIEND, and it is not a cover-up; I love her). Anyways this is to the author I told you that I was not wanting any press on this, because this is my life and like many have said who gives a F\*\*k who I go home with, it is my choice and a private choice at that, so STOP PRYING into my PRIVATE life. Thank you. Please Let me live my life and not the life you want me to live."

Peterson did a complete 180 after being interviewed for *Genre*. Why? Who can say? He was quoted as saying his sponsors, Adidas, had no problem with it.

Oh, well. He still looks good running, even while backpedaling.

## Ice, ice babies

Meanwhile, women's hockey player Nancy Drolet has become one of Canada's first big-name female athletes to come out, and not backtrack, reported the *Ottawa Citizen*.

Drolet was a member of Canada's women's hockey team until she was dropped just before the Salt Lake City Olympics.

Drolet, 29, was "married" with her partner, Nathalie Allaire, last week in a civil ceremony in Quebec. Same-sex civil unions became legal in Quebec earlier this year.

Drolet said she and her partner are now thinking of starting a family.

Congratulations to the couple. Let's hope their kids have strong teeth.

## Drag strip

Jeff Gordon drove his way out of a losing streak when he won the Sharpie 500 in Bristol, Tennessee last week.

The diminutive and impishly cute race car driver is in divorce proceedings with his wife, whose lawyers claim "marital indiscretions" and evidence of infidelity.

A few weeks ago, Gordon was inexplicably guest co-hosting the *Regis & Kelly* show with Kelly Ripa. Among the guests was Vin Diesel, whose undeclared sexual orientation hasn't hampered the handsome bald actor's success in the inane yet action-packed XXX.

No definitive word on any off-camera fraternization, but Gordon later enthusiastically talked

about "going out" with Ripa's husband, *All My Children* actor Mark Consuelos, whose previous career moves included being a stripper under the name "Meaty Mark" at the Tampa, Florida gay nightclub Stingers.

## Strike out

Baseball's strike may be on this week, and Barry Bonds's big 600 home run ball may remain locked in a safe or seized by a court until the ownership is determined. In the meantime, the Giants may be losing, but the Oakland A's have served up a 14-game winning streak as of Tuesday.

Among the handsome jocks whose efforts are worth a BART trip is pitcher Mark Mulder. His cup runneth over.

At the post-opening party for PINS, graciously hosted by cast member Matthew Vierling, I got to meet a pal of his who works for the A's. Did I get any team gossip? Nope. Didn't ask. I was too busy taking in the Pam Grier fest on the widescreen TV.

Would a gay player on any team use the strike period to gain some interest in the gay topic during the ill-timed possible strike? With so many non-jocks unemployed, and the Bushian economy doing what any informed person knew it would do — tanking — there's little sympathy for money-grubbing ballplayers. More for one who comes out?

The Magic 8-Ball says, "Doubtful."

Speaking of bats, I hope to soon report on the Gay Softball World Series, which took place in Portland. The host hotel was the Hilton, where a fundraiser for Herr Bush was the subject of a protest by up to 2,000 people.

The cops overreacted in what will no doubt become a familiar pattern in the future. Amid some of the usual anarchist window-smashers, peaceful protesters were beaten and children were peppered-sprayed by riot-gear-ed baton-wielding cops.

Hopefully such behavior won't be happening in one of my favorite states, New Jersey, where violent behavior has been banned from kids and professional sports events.

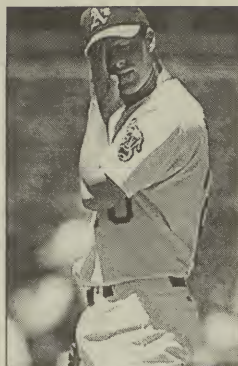
As for anti-war protests, the Magic 8-Ball says, "Lookin' Scary."

## Flat tired

Pallotta Teamworks, the for-profit corporation that produced the controversial AIDS Ride events in San Francisco, Washington D.C., and elsewhere, shut its Century City, California headquarters late Friday, August 23, and laid off 250 employees.

The company and its founder, Dan Pallotta, have long been criticized by AIDS activists as an "AIDS profiteer," due to the high fees, overhead, and expenses of its bike ride fundraisers for AIDS charities. In some events, such as the recent AIDS Vaccine Ride, as little as 8 percent of the proceeds have actually gone to beneficiaries.

Stated ACT UP/DC spokesman Wayne Turner, "For years, Pallotta Teamworks has been looting our community of resources that should have gone to life-saving services for people with HIV and AIDS. By exploiting well-meaning donors, and the suffering of sick and dying people, Dan Pallotta built a multimillion dollar personal empire, and must be held accountable."



Mark Mulder sweats out another victory on the ... mound.

Rochelle Jaffe, whose 31-year-old daughter, Eve, died during the 2000 DC AIDS Ride, stated, "Dan Pallotta deceived us and betrayed the very people he purported to help. His negligence cost my daughter her life." Ms. Jaffe has filed a wrongful death suit, citing misconduct and negligence in the medical treatment received by her daughter by Pallotta Teamworks.

AIDS activists anticipate that with Jaffe's lawsuit, and several others currently pending, there will finally be a full financial accounting of proceeds raised by Pallotta Teamworks over the past eight years in the name of AIDS charities. As a for-profit corporation, Pallotta Teamworks is not subject to public disclosure of its assets and profits.

"It looks as though Dan Pallotta's days of profiteering are finally over, and that's a relief," added Jaffe.

PTW had lost contracts with the SF AIDS Foundation, and many other groups over the past year, and also been hit with a lawsuit from attorney and Continuum Executive Director Mark Cloutier, who considered the AIDS Vaccine Ride in which he rode to be a negligent money loser.

Vaccine Rides the world over began to collapse from low ridership and the company's trademark glossy ads and ludicrous budgets.

PTW claims to be continuing the Avon Three-Day Breast Cancer Walks, which have yet to lose enough money to be canceled. PTW seems to have carpetbagged their way from AIDS to cancer. They even threatened the makers of a pharmaceutical TV ad that showed a generic "three-day walk" with copyright infringement.

PTW failed in several attempts to prevent other AIDS groups from doing their own bike rides, claiming to have invented pretty much everything but the wheel.

Let's see. Where might one find the soon-to-be elusive Pallottites?

The Magic 8-Ball says, "Try the Cayman Islands." ▼

For the controversial history of the AIDS Rides, visit [www.sportscomplex.org](http://www.sportscomplex.org). Click on the "Wheels of Fortune" banner.

Catch a radio show all about PINS, with "Straight-Jacket" host David Lample, September 2 at noon on KALX, FM 90.7. You can hear sections of the play, interviews with myself, director Stephen Rupsch, actors Nick Tagas (Joey), Brett Holland (Dink), and Eric Herzog (Bennie). I'll also be sharing experiences about the novel/play adaptation at a discussion/reading at A Different Light Bookstore on Castro Street, Monday, September 16, at 7:30 p.m.



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# CLASSIFIEDS

## BAY AREA REPORTER

# CLASSIFIEDS

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### City and County of San Francisco



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT**  
The Dept. of the Environment's mission is to improve, enhance and preserve the environment and promote San Francisco's long-term environmental sustainability.  
The Dept. of the Environment seeks volunteers and interns for helping in the office and in the field (415) 554-6390.

#### VACANCY NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 54974, California Government Code, notice is hereby given of the following unscheduled vacancies.

The Citizens' General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee is charged with informing the public concerning the expenditure of general obligation bond proceeds. The committee shall actively review and report on the expenditure of taxpayers' money in accordance with the voters' authorization.

The committee shall consist of at least nine members to be appointed as follows:

1. The Mayor shall appoint three members as follows: one must be active in a business organization representing the business community located within the City; one must be active in a labor organization; and one must be active in a community organization. Please send applications to the Mayor.

2. The Board of Supervisors shall appoint three members as follows: one must be active in a business organization representing the business community located within the City; one must be active in a labor organization; and one must be active in a community organization. Members will be appointed to a two year term.

Interested persons may obtain an application form from the Clerk of the Rules Committee, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689. Completed applications should be submitted to the Clerk of the Board.

3. The Controller shall appoint two members one of which must have expertise in auditing governmental financial statements, or with expertise in public finance law; and one with expertise in construction management. Please send completed applications to Tripta Gupta, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 316, San Francisco, CA 94102

4. The Civil Grand Jury shall appoint one member who is a member of the Civil Grand Jury or its designee.

No employee or official of the City shall be appointed to the committee. No vendor, contractor, or consultant of the City that performs work funded by bonds issued by the City shall be appointed to the committee. All applicants must be residents of San Francisco, unless otherwise stated. Additional information and an application may be obtained by accessing the city's web site: [www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvs](http://www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvs)

#### THE SAN FRANCISCO CITY CLINIC

City Clinic provides free or low cost, confidential, comprehensive sexually transmitted disease diagnostic and treatment services for anyone 12 years of age or older. The Clinic is located at 356 7th Street, between Folsom and Harrison Streets, and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m., and Thursday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The telephone number is (415) 487-5500. The City and County of San Francisco encourages public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions. The Statement of Qualifications is due by 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 29, 2002. The RFP document is available at the Authority's office located at 440 Turk Street, San Francisco, CA. Contact Jean Chan Wentworth to request a copy by (fax) 415-554-1258, e-mail [Procurement@sfa.org](mailto:Procurement@sfa.org).

The City and County of San Francisco encourages public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

#### NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

City of San Francisco Uptown Parking Corporation seeks proposals from qualified food service operations to operate the Union Square Cafe on the renovated Union Square in Downtown San Francisco. Request for Proposals (RFP's) providing more detailed information is available at the managers office at Sutter Stockton Garage, 3rd floor, 444 Stockton Street, San Francisco, CA 94108. Address all inquiries and questions regarding the Cafe to Gregory Sokol, (415) 982-7275.

#### STATEMENT FILE 259753

The following person(s) are doing business as: Dopamine Productions, LP, 854 Folsom Street, San Francisco, CA. 94107. This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed Mark Decena, co-president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 06, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/31/2002.

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259725

The following person(s) are doing business as: Funding Solutions Ltd, 60 Berkeley Way, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Gary Thomas Hackett and Melinda Frances Washmera. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 29, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/31/2002.

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259731

The following person(s) are doing business as: Triangle Studio, 2573 Harrison Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110-2719. This business is conducted by an individual signed Howard M. Thornton. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 1, 1993. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/31/2002.

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259653

The following person(s) are doing business as: Stephanie's Businesscom, 310 Arleta Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Tanya M. Johnson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the

above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/29/2002.

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259104

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Stone Doctors, 24 Bernice Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Jason Born. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 09, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/29/2002.

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259973

The following person(s) are doing business as: Royal Travel & Tours, 1048 Folsom Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Horace J. Diamonon Jr. and Crisostomo Ibarra. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/24/2002.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259516

The following person(s) are doing business as: A.O. DSGN, 931 Dolores Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mikal O'Neil. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 17, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/24/2002.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259920

The following person(s) are doing business as: A.R. Construction Company, 6345 3rd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This

business is conducted by a corporation signed Ronald Arana, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 01, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/07/2002.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 260018

The following person(s) are doing business as: Mexican Imports, 3901 18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Juan Anillon. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 9, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/09/2002.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 260033

The following person(s) are doing business as: BLO Salon, 500 Laguna Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Dominic (Nick) Aitken. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/12/2002.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

#### STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 1999-0232377-00

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Accelerated Innovations. Located at: 311 Cumberland Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business was conducted by an individual signed Michael Piacentini. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: June 11, 1999.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

#### STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 1999-0232311-00

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: 2 Fathom. Located at: 311 Cumberland Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business was conducted by an individual signed Michael Piacentini. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: June 10, 1999.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

#### STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 1999-0228822-00

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Accelerated Innovations. Located at: 1621 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94111. This business was conducted by a corporation, signed Jim Reiter. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: February 5, 1999.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 260180

The following person(s) are doing business as: Bill's Kitchen & Teriyaki, 475 3rd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yui, Hai Xun. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/16/2002.

AUG. 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259485

The following person(s) are doing business as: Pat Ryan Moving & Storage, 1644 Fulton Street #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Patrick Joseph Ryan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/23/2002.

AUG. 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 260031

The following person(s) are doing business as: Mike's Of Noe Valley Shoe Repair, 4071-24th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Miguel A. Argueta and Rosa E. Argueta. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/12/2002.

AUG. 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 2002

#### STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 249166

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Bill's Kitchen & Teriyaki. Located at: 475 3rd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business was conducted by husband and wife signed Kin Bun Lam and Dina Shu Hong Lam. The fictitious name

referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: May 30, 2001.  
AUG. 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 2002

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 02-540414

In the Matter of the Application of Paul Allen Tollefson, For change of Name. The application of Paul Allen Tollefson for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Paul Allen Tollefson has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to - Paul Tollefson Christopher. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 17th day of October 2002, at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

AUG. 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 2002

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Decruz Dolores Munoz, Cruz Otto. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, Suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 3481 18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. Type of license Applied for: 41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE

AUG. 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0260276-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Moon In Water, 733 Fillmore Street #3, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jonathan Gaultlett. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 20, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/20/2002.

AUG. 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 19, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259470

The following person(s) are doing business as: Willin To Vend, 1550 Underwood Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Willie Morris Mickle. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 23, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/23/2002.

AUG. 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 19, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0260326-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: BP Design, 590 Silver Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Benjamin B. Pada. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 22, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/22/2002.

AUG. 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 19, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259481

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Healing Leaf, 52 6th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Elisa M. Baker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 23, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/23/2002.

AUG. 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 19, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0260155-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Metro City Bar, 3600 16th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Richard H. Pearson, pres. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/15/2002.

AUG. 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 19, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0260219-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Monterey Barber Shop, 719 Monterey Blvd, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Joseph J. Pasternak. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/19/2002.

AUG. 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 19, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 259951

The following person(s) are doing business as: John Rocker Films, Filmmaker Studios, Casting Couch Productions, 200 12th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Rocker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 8, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/08/2002.

AUG. 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 19, 2002

#### STATEMENT FILE 0260311-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Gay Relate, 160 Corwin Street #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Jonathan Plotzker, Gregory P. Howe, Bill McLawhorn, David Mulig, Hugh Keelan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact

business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 19, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/21/2002.

AUG. 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 19, 2002

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-02-540424

In the Matter of the Application of Ilya Karalnik, For change of Name. The application of Ilya Karalnik for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Ilya Karalnik has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Ilya Fishman. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 22, day of Oct at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

AUG. 29, SEPT. 5, 12, 19, 2002

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**The Lavender Tube goes to court**  
Shooting of a gay man in San Diego gay bar prosecuted in 'Crime & Punishment.'  
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**A timeless 'Tosca'**  
Benoit Jacquot's new film features the 'Love Couple.'  
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**A place to flourish**  
Mark Foehringer Dance Project at Yerba Buena.  
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 32 • No. 35 • 29 August 2002

## Reservation riddles Gay Native American learns 'The Business of Fancydancing'

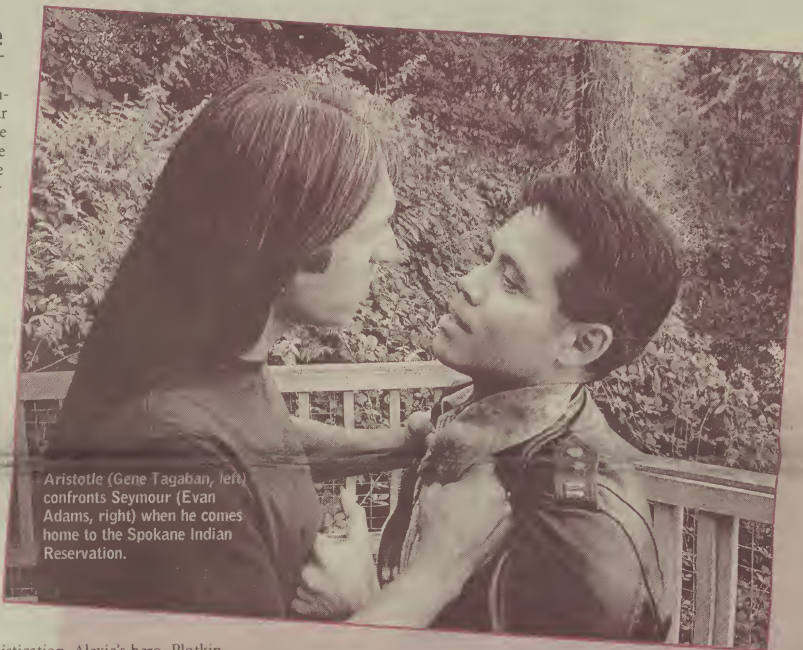
by David Lamble

Halfway through *The Business of Fancydancing*, opening Friday at the Lumiere, embattled hero Seymour Plotkin (Evan Adams), a self-proclaimed "affirmative action poet," is lounging in a bathtub when his space is violated by his white lover's videocamera. "I want to share my poems with the world, but not my penis," yells Seymour to Steven, who keeps right on filming as Seymour's voice informs us on the voiceover, "There's nothing so white as the white boy an Indian boy loves."

Earlier, Seymour and Steven are in bed when the phone rings. "Why don't you answer it?" whines Seymour. "It's not for me," replies Steven. "How do you know?" presses Seymour. "Because white people don't call each other at 3 in the morning."

Writer/director Sherman Alexie is often funny, and never funnier than when he's trying to make a serious point. The call that Seymour dreads is from "the Rez," or the Spokane Indian Reservation, informing him of the death of a childhood friend. How does Mouse the Violin Player (Swil Kanim) die? Refer to the chapter entitled, "How To Make a Bathroom Cleaner Sandwich." How did a reservation Indian learn to play the violin? "By watching public television 17 hours a day." Alexie's witty bantering style reassures us "this will be neither an Indian version of *The Days of Wine and Roses* nor a low-budget remake of *Dances with Wolves*." The hero of Alexie's first film, *Smoke Signals*, admits to having seen *Dances with Wolves* far too many times.

Alexie wrote *Smoke Signals* based on his short stories, "The Lone Ranger" and "Tonto Fistfight in Heaven." His second film is a huge step up in style and verbal sophistication. Alexie's hero, Plotkin, rebels against his fate by trading his life on an Indian reservation for a first-rate education at a white college, followed by a critically acclaimed role as a poet charged with the dubious task of interpreting Native American culture for the mainstream. Seymour has dined with the President, the Pope and Robert Redford. Seymour's loyalties are challenged by Steven — "They're not your tribe anymore, I'm your tribe" — and by the opinion of his tribe members as reflected in a poll: "73% of Spokane Indians think Seymour is an asshole, while 22% think he's just a jerk, while 5% are undecided."



Aristotle (Gene Tagaban, left) confronts Seymour (Evan Adams, right) when he comes home to the Spokane Indian Reservation.

### Wharton school

Confirming Seymour's opinion that "living on a reservation is like living inside an Edith Wharton novel," Alexie's film does justice to the misunderstood role of the writer, and to our unease about all American identity at this time. In the film's production notes, Alexie jokes that one of his characters has a bloodline so diluted that he may not technically be an Indian at all.

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## Doris days Liberace, Doris Fish, and punk rock converge in 'Let's Talk About Me'

by Richard Dodds



(L to R) Arturo Galster as Doris Fish, Phillip R. Ford as Liberace, and Jennifer Blowdryer as herself in *Let's Talk About Me*.

Doris Fish has been dead for 11 years, but she's still swimming around inside Phillip R. Ford's head. He figures it's time to let her out.

"I have crates and crates of videotapes and other stuff from my 15 years collaborating with Doris," said Ford, once a mainstay of San Francisco's underground theater scene. "That era is completely gone, but I wanted to see what it would be like to actually conjure it up and finally get it out of my system."

The result is *Simply Stunning - The Doris Fish Story*, a new one-"woman" show adapted for the stage and directed by Ford that stars Arturo Galster as the multifaceted Australian-born drag queen. It's part of a three-act bill titled *Let's Talk About Me* that

contains a couple of other blasts from a past that is more distant culturally than chronologically.

Ford is the star of one of those pieces, *Behind the Candelabra - My Life with Liberace*, which he first performed at the DNA Lounge in the late '80s. It is being directed by Jennifer Blowdryer, an icon of SF's early punk-rock scene, who recalls that era in *White Trash Debutante*, the third component of *Let's Talk About Me*.

Ford and Blowdryer are also the producers of the three-part production opening this week in the Studio at Theatre Rhino, and he credits Blowdryer with rousing him back into the theater after a seven-year self-imposed hiatus.

"I had been doing showings in the city for 15 years," Ford said, "and I think I was just burned out. Between 1991

page 32 ►



by Roberto Friedman  
and Rhoda Rodents

If you want to relive the wild ride that was the 1999 San Francisco Mayor's race, you'll have the chance to do just that on Friday, Sept. 6 at 9 p.m., when KQED-TV (Channel 9) broadcasts the TV premiere of SF filmmaker **Emily Morse's** *See How They Run*. Morse's amusing documentary focuses on the eventual showdown between formidable incumbent **Willie Brown** and fairly insurgent **Tom Ammiano**.

First we get pithy debate scenes from the three original candidates: the unsinkable Mayor Brown, millionaire **Clint "Abuse 'R Us" Reilly**, and former Mayor **Frank "Shower Power" Jordan**. Then, just two weeks before Election Day, Supervisor Ammiano enters the race as a write-in candidate, comes on gangbusters, and really shakes up the party.

Morse's film proved to be a big hit on the festival circuit, giving audiences outside the Bay Area Bubble a good look at the craziness and shenanigans of SF politics. National figures weighing in on Guess Who's side include the **Reverend Jesse Jackson** and **Senator Dianne Feinstein**. On **Bill Maher's** late lamented *Politically Incorrect* forum, we get to watch columnist **Arianna Huffington** confront Da Mayor on his documented statement that people who make less than \$50,000 a year shouldn't even live in SF. Brown's quick-witted response: "But we need waiters from somewhere!"

At least the '99 SF mayor's race was classy compared to the presidential one coming the very next year. Remember, that was the race where Republican campaign consultants "subliminally" inserted the word "RATS" into video footage of their opponent. Now these same ethically-challenged types are running the country. Rats.

## Fish not foul

We don't know why we're so determined to walk down **Memory Lane** this week. The cover



The authentic Doris Fish in Vegas in Space in 1984.

feature on *Let's Talk About Me*, the three-part entertainment opening at Rhino Studio, partly concerns the life of late SF drag queen and actress **Doris Fish**. We well remember the scene at the *SF Sentinel* in the late '80s when Fish would arrive to deliver that week's column. This was still in the Paleolithic Era of typesetting and velox, when writers would actually drop by the office and hand in typewritten copy.

Fish, who was wild and woolly in full impeccable drag, was somewhat more mild-mannered as a man. Still, his copy was always typed on frilly lavender stationery, generously doused in a most indelicate perfume. We always knew whose column we were editing. These days, no one thinks to scent

up their copy any more, except of course for the immortal **Sweet Lips**.

## Gurley boys

Distortion-prone right-wing author **Ann "Thrax" Coulter** fantasized about her perfect hunk to columnist **George Gurley** in *The New York Observer* last week. "Cheney is my ideal man. Because he's solid, he's funny, he's very handsome. He was a football player. People don't think about him as the glamour type because he's a serious person, he wears glasses, he's lost his hair. But he's a very handsome man. And you cannot imagine him losing his temper, which I find extremely sexy."

"Men who get upset and lose their tempers and claim to be sensitive males: talk about girly boys. No, there's a reason hurricanes are named after women and homosexual men. [Out There: There is?

They are?] It's one of our little methods of social control. We're supposed to fly off the handle."

Quick, hose us down with the Ann "Thrax" decontaminant right now, before Coulterthink sets in! East is West in the looking-glass world of her liberal-media-conspiracy tome *Slander*, and work will set you free. Or is **Hurricane Bruce** currently bearing down on us from the Gulf Coast of Florida?

## Stunt man

No sooner did "Tiffany network" CBS announce the new cast of hotties in the next *Survivor* cast than leaks spouted all over online outlets that contestant **Brian Heidik's** "varying acting credits" include several appearances as star dick in soft-core straight pornos with titles like *Virgins of Sherwood Forest* and *The Pleasure Zone*. And we thought gay porn titles were corny!

We can't bring ourselves to believe that CBS didn't know that Heidik had been out in front of the camera for more than his one-shots on *Baywatch Nights* (1995) and *Doogie Howser, M.D.* (1989). Why, you can plainly see the big tiger tattooed on his shoulder (the same one winking from his CBS publicity photo) in all of the soft-porn stills circulating on The Smoking Gun site. There you can also see Heidik, christened with the nom de porn **Dave Roth**, cavort with **Kim Dawson** in *Passion Cove: Where Have You Been All My Life?* and in a threesome with **Ginger Monroe** and a secondary bimbo in *Passion Cove 2*.

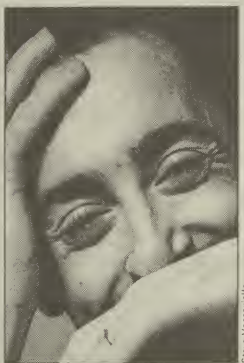
Now imagine for a minute the media circus which would have ensued had Mr. Survivor Bod pursued a career in gay porn. Think CBS would have raised a Golden Eyebrow at that? Seems like a clear case of the old hetero/homo double-standard to us.

## Liked a lot

*Passion's Obsession* is the title of yet another Dave Roth sizzler, but *Possession Obsession* is an entertaining new volume from The **Andy Warhol Museum**, all about the late Pop artist and his penchant for collecting. The catalog is chock-a-block with pictures of Warhol's massive holdings of antiques and collectibles, as found in his Upper East Side home upon his death in '87, and as installed for the famous Sotheby's estate sale in '88.

Photographs by **Robert Mapplethorpe** taken for *House & Garden* magazine document the interiors of Warhol's mid-19th-

century townhouse at 57 East 66th St. in NYC. Further chapters divide the goods into barrels: Art Deco, Jewels, Americana, American Indian art, and the always indispensable Kitch (cookie jars, **Claudette Colbert** paper dolls). Andy always said Pop Art was all about liking things, and there's a lot to like in his packrat-style collections: Navajo rugs and Fiesta ware, **Cartier** bangles and **Puiforcat** silver services. Seems like he gave the cultivation of his taste a lot more than 15 minutes.

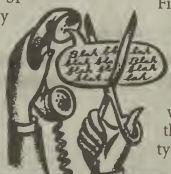


Alan 'Cumming' clean in Tale.

## Acting out

If British actor and now author **Alan Cumming** has lived life as hedonistically as the 29-year-old title character of his first novel, *Tommy's Tale* (Regan-Books), he's seen a few fast lanes. Here's Tommy describing an ecstasy club-and-sex trip from the night before, in the book's first pages: "You know, people who don't do drugs like this think they're really scary and violent experiences, but they're so not. They're what the word *sensual* was invented for. And last night, **Dame Sensuality** came down from the clouds and sat on my face, and I drank hungrily of her."

Cumming's tale unfolds as Tommy conquers his fear of commitment and tries to make it right with his boyfriend, the more grounded and mature Charlie. While his story's components don't always pass the verisimilitude test (Charlie's son Finn is just too liberated for a little boy), Cumming's foray into fiction is at least a quick and entertaining read. But the Tony Award-winning thespian (*Cabaret*) should probably consider keeping his day job. ▼



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Warhol horses around with collectibles in an antiques warehouse.



## THEATRE

# Squad action

## 'PINS' makes the stage an arena at NCTC

by Richard Dodds

There are a number of good reasons to see *PINS*. Jim Provenzano's crafty adaptation of his novel about a gay high school wrestler, and one of them is the young actor who plays that wrestler.

His name is Nick Tagas, and I wouldn't be at all surprised to find his name attached to increasingly prestigious projects, if an acting career is what he's after. Based on his work as Joey Nicci, the sexually and socially conflicted hero of *PINS*, it's a path he should well consider.

Tagas' skillful and empathetic portrayal provides a needed grounding in the swirl of scenes that Provenzano (author of the *B.A.R.'s Sports Complex* column) has created from his novel. Smartly, Provenzano has rethought his prose work in a highly theatrical fashion, rather than as a wordy literal adaptation, and director Stephen Rupsch has contributed to this successful stage translation with his fast-paced and imaginative production at New Conservatory Theatre Center.

Set in a New Jersey suburb in 1993, the story follows 15-year-old Joey as his interest in wrestling becomes a passion with both sweet and tragic consequences. The wrestling mat also provides an arena in which Joey can grapple with his growing certainty that he is gay, and to find a socially acceptable way to touch a fellow high-school wrestler with whom he is smitten.

But because wrestling involves just such physical contact, and its participants wear revealing singlets, it has a reputation as a "fag" sport that certain members of Joey's squad go to dangerous



(Left to right:) Brett Holland and Nick Tagas in Jim Provenzano's *PINS*.

lengths to prove false. Rather than confront his teammates over their homophobia, he joins them on a fateful night that changes all of their lives.

NCTC has converted its Walker Theatre into something of an intimate wrestling ring, with mats covering the stage area, which is surrounded by seating on three sides. Several matches are represented, and while choreographed by Provenzano, they still create a visceral competitive tension.

The best scenes, though, are those that explore the budding attraction between Joey and his best friend Dink (an engaging Brett Holland) as their tentative flirtations move toward consummation. These moments ring with adolescent authenticity that is both warm and safely erotic.

Where the play is least compelling is in the scenes with Joey's parents, who remain ambiguous figures. Their discovery that their

son is gay is practically a nonchalant event that lessens the dramatic tensions that have been building. While Megan Towle, as Joey's mother, works effectively with the material at hand, Mitchell Lee Marks can't find a credible groove as Joey's father. With the exception of Tagas as Joey and Holland as Dink, the rest of the cast play multiple roles and mostly serve the piece effectively.

With some work, *PINS* is a play with a promising future. But even in this, its first production, this unusual play is in remarkably good shape. See it now, and you someday may be able to say you saw it first. And the same goes for Nick Tagas, a diminutive actor with a big talent. ▼

*PINS* will run at New Conservatory Theatre Center through Oct. 13. Tickets are \$18-\$28. Call 861-8972.

# Playing with our food

## 'My Dinner with Lunatique Fantastique'

by Richard Dodds

Easy to enjoy but hard to explain, *My Dinner with Lunatique Fantastique* is 60 minutes of imaginations run riot. For example, consider a beet, carrots, some leafy kale, and two ripe lemons being manipulated by a group of black-gloved hands to create a stripper. After showing off her lemons, this organic stripper sheds her kale to reveal a leafy green g-string. The audience, you should excuse the expression, eats it up.

Liebe Wetzel and her Lunatique Fantastique troupe have developed a devoted following for their uncanny ability to turn everyday objects into soulful creations. When an anthropomorphized shirt comes across a helium balloon, it figures out how to use it to take flight. When this charming image comes to a sudden end as the balloon bursts, there are real gasps of empathetic distress from the audience.

The troupe's newest show, now at the New Conservatory Theatre Center, uses food and dining-room utensils as its main sources of inspiration. Even though we

can see the dark-clad puppeteers at work, it requires only a hint of a squint for them to disappear, and for a school of fish, a dirigible, an elephant, a saucy waitress, or a grunting bodybuilder to appear from the objects they are maneuvering.

There is no dialogue, but Wetzel and her team are adept at vocalizing, without distinct words, the emotions of the characters. Often that emotion is wonder, as the emerging creatures begin to explore and adapt to their surroundings. Perhaps the finest moment involves a sweatshirt that finds two twigs to use as hands, which it then uses to enviously explore the superior limbs of its puppeteer before wrestling its creator for her body.

In addition to the light-hearted *Dinner* scenario, Wetzel offers brief samplings from several more serious works-in-progress. The most effective one at this point employs rolls of toilet paper to suggest the self-defeating antagonisms of the Israelis and Palestinians.

But mostly the show is about fun and imagination. There is even a gay interlude in which Wetzel creates a sexual encounter



Lunatique Fantastique puppeteers animate their 'Swiss Miss' creation.

with her fingers that is more innocent than its *Hand Job* title implies. Still, the fruit is fresh at *My Dinner with Lunatique Fantastique*. ▼

*My Dinner with Lunatique Fantastique* will run through Sept. 15 at the New Conservatory Theatre Center. Tickets are \$15-\$25. Call 861-8972.

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# Love couple meets tragic end

'Tosca' with Alagna and Gheorghiu opens at the Opera Plaza

by Jason Serinus

Opera films run the gamut from emotionally riveting to downright deadly. In the case of *Tosca*, the new film of Giacomo Puccini's classic opera, there are sufficient emotional revelations, spiced with a few eyebrow-raising moments, to make the film both a must-see and a must-dish item for lovers of great singing and over-the-top melodrama.

Directed and produced by the French team of Benoit Jacquot and Daniel Toscan du Plantier, the film, which has already been shown in New York and Los Angeles, arrives in San Francisco on Friday, opening at the Opera Plaza. The dubbed soundtrack derives from the complete EMI recording, a lavish undertaking filled with color shots from the movie, released last November.

The production spotlights the aurally and visually arresting talents of EMI Classics' "love couple," tenor Roberto Alagna and soprano Angela Gheorghiu. Of equal importance is the superb conducting of Antonio Pappano and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House Covent Garden.

There are many pluses to this production. First and foremost, rather than trying to pretend that it is other than lip-synched, the film makes the most of its synthetic nature by occasionally shift-

ing between footage of the action, mostly shot in stunning color; black-and-white footage of the actual studio recording session, including many visually dramatic sweeps and gestures by conductor Pappano; and external shots of the imposing historic venues in which the action transpires. An especially brilliant use of color occurs in the final, pre-sunrise meeting between diva Tosca and her lover Cavaradossi; until the sun rises, the protagonists are shown in black and white, with Tosca's flaming red cape and her lover's purple collar painted in. When the sun does rise, an appropriate change in orchestral accompaniment is matched by the return of full color cinematography.

Then, of course, there is the singing. Soprano Gheorghiu, undoubtedly one of if not the finest (and best-looking) lyric/dramatic sopranos on today's stage, delivers a fully nuanced portrayal as Tosca. The voice is at the peak of its beauty, inherently dramatic, seamless, and totally secure throughout the range.

For those accustomed to the unforgettable vocalism of Maria Callas in the title role — the 1953 monaural recording that remains one of the great operatic documents — Gheorghiu's Act I love scene proves revelatory. While the main emotions one feels from Callas are fire, jealousy, rage, and infinite variations thereof, Gheorghiu balances fury with a most

seductive and convincing flirtatiousness. Though her Tosca does not burn with Callas' red heat, her seductive, at-times girlish interplay with her lover Cavaradossi adds an extra dimension to her character.

## Husband a resource

The soprano's offstage husband, Roberto Alagna, may be better suited for lighter French repertoire, but he manages his role quite well, offering sufficient subtlety without resorting to overacting, and mostly holding his own with Gheorghiu's vocalism. Unfortunately, in a blatant attempt to beef up his voice, the filmmakers add far more reverberation than on the CD, making the tenor sound in a different acoustic environment than his partner. One second he's at her side, the next sounding as if he's singing from on high. On the plus side, while Alagna may have some undergarment assistance, he grants us several Act I butt shots that suggest ample reason for Tosca's affection.

In other roles, veteran baritone Ruggero Raimondi is a fine Scarpia. Though he sounds a bit woolly, lacking the last ounce of venom that would make Scarpia sound as evil as his actions, his vocal portrayal by and large succeeds. Enrico Fissore as the Sacrestan is superb, voice and acting uniting to make his character's



Roberto Alagna and Angela Gheorghiu as lovers Cavaradossi and Tosca.

weakness totally believable. Maurizio Muraro (Angelotti), David Cangelosi (Spoletta), and other supporting singers are vocally adequate for their roles, with boy soprano James Savage-Hanford quite lovely to hear and gaze upon.

While Gheorghiu's Act I portrayal is frequently revelatory, her histrionics in the two subsequent acts — my partner terms her a graduate of the "Jessye Norman School of Acting" — make me thankful for Alagna's reliance upon visual sincerity. Is this a case of Gheorghiu playing the diva Tosca, or of a soprano so convinced of her divahood that she too often plays *herself* playing Tosca (as Bette Davis, later in life, played Bette Davis playing whomever)? Both Gheorghiu and Raimondi frequently resort to 10 changes of facial expression per minute, a good eight too many.

Fissore, on the other hand, is as convincing a Sacrestan as one might ever wish to see. And if Cangelosi doesn't make vocal waves as Spoletta, his pretty-boy interplay with his master Scarpia, which includes the elder Chief of Police patting him sweetly on the cheek, adds a most intriguing undercurrent to the proceedings.

Finally, there is the conducting. Pappano understands the opera's great swings of emotion, and has his players singing them with a heart and soul that consistently demonstrate Puccini's orchestral mastery. *Tosca* may be a potboiler, but the musical direction is so generous, and the sweeps of orchestral color so seductive, that few will find themselves able to resist diving in. ▼

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## Midnight morass 'Elvira's Haunted Hills'

by Brandon Judell

*Elvira's Haunted Hills*, which has sprung up at some recent gay film festivals and plays the Clay Theatre at Midnight on 8/30-31, opens with the camp legend Elvira in bed with a lovely, heavy-set woman. This other gal turns out to be Zou Zou (Mary Jo Smith), her maid. So, are the pair getting it on?

Before we can find out, their landlord breaks down their door, demanding the rent. Elvira responds, "When I spend a night in a man's room, *he* better pay *me*."

Well, that's sort of it for *Lesbiana*. But for the rest of the film, Elvira is sort of a big-breasted woman playing a drag queen playing a big-breasted woman.

The year is 1851. The locale: Carpathia. While hitching on an abandoned road, Elvira and Zou Zou get picked up by Dr. Bradley Bradley (Scott Atkinson), who's in his coach. When Elvira, who is an aspiring performer here, asks why the good doctor picked her up, he

responds, "Your reputation precedes you."

Elvira replies, "I hate it when that happens."

The coach soon arrives at a castle inhabited by a fatally cursed family: Vladimere, Ema and Roxana Hellsbus.

As soon as Elvira walks onto the Hellsbus' premises, everyone starts screaming and fainting. Not because of her exposed breasts, but because Elvira's a slutty replica of Vladimere's first wife, who died. But did she die? Or was she buried alive behind a wall, just like the woman in Elvira's recent dreams?

My lips are cemented together. All I can tell you is that this film is a cheap laugh every three minutes, with loads of euphemisms for penises and the sex act. There's also one Village People reference.

So imagine a Roger Corman film starring RuPaul as Vincent Price, and you sort of have it. This is pure fun from beginning to end, with such great lines as, "Plague, schmague. I have a show to do in Paris." If that makes you chuckle, Elvira is for you. ▼



## DANCE

# Blended whimsy

## Mark Foehringer Dance Project at YBC

by Michael Wade Simpson

In ballet, there's no farm-team system, no place for up-and-coming companies and choreographers to try out, at least in cities like San Francisco, where the local ballet company is hot stuff. Which is a shame. A company like Mark Foehringer's, which appeared at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts last weekend, deserves a place to flourish, experiment choreographically, and to grow. As it was, they seemed, both in finesse and choreographic content, a little like the not-ready-for-prime-time-players.

Foehringer has an interesting background. A child of Lutheran missionaries, he was born in Minnesota and raised in Sao Paulo. He studied ballet at the Royal Academy of Dance in London and danced with Sao Paulo's Cisne Negro Dance Company for 10 years. In this era of multi-culti, his résumé would suggest a hint of South America somewhere on stage. But his classical specialty is Vaganova method, and the dance is all-Minnesota, performed by a well-blended company of Afro-Brazilian, Latino and other dancers.

Great dance changes the way we see the world, and good choreography changes the way we see dance. Sometimes we have to settle for a couple of hours of good dancing. It's like going to a dinner party where the food's delicious, but everyone around the table is talking about TV. Foehringer's company is attractive and proficient, but the dances don't change much of anything.

*String Quartet*, set to an unidentified Prokofiev work per-

coming up with much.

Foehringer seemed a little over his head choreographically. The piece was not only informed but doomed by its score, which is all emotion without a grounding beat; constant, messy music piling up, when what the dance needed was more stillness, simplicity and

MFDP dancer Ramon Moreno

clarity. Plotless works also rely on pure, precise dancing, and this was one of those occasions where all the goodwill earned by the solid performances was dashed on a couple of occasions when the musicians stopped, leaving the dancers to frantically catch up, smile, and hit their unisons a second too late. Oops.

*The Lark* was a duet for Graciela Acedo and Ramon Moreno, and a grand piano upstage offered Glinka played by the very young pianist Diana Tkachenko. What drew the eye were the incredibly long, ballerina-like arms of the pianist, and how ethereally she used them as she played. It was like a beautiful swan had snuck onto the stage and outshone the ducklings who were dancing.

The second act featured Foehringer's 42-minute telling of *The Four Seasons*, set to Vivaldi's familiar score. This birth-to-death tour of life opened with a lovely projected image, a young girl in ballerina outfit flouncing around some black-and-white yard in an old movie. It then proceeded to turn into an all-dance *Carol Burnett Show*, a progression of acts featuring bees and flowers, autumn-battered Victorian picnickers, and, most memorably, a

sextet of gray-wigged rest homies, crashing around with walkers. What was intended to be light-hearted and funny mostly left me feeling sorry for the dancers, who made the most of things, but were never trained to be comics. ▼

**"Great dance changes the way we see the world, and good choreography changes the way we see dance."**

formed live by the Conservatory of Music String Quartet, was the only toe-shoe dance on the bill. The entire company appeared in duets and trios, there were orange-clad dancers and blue ones, and a few exciting moments when everyone was exploding in different directions at once. In general, however, this plotless work explored the musical score without

### Sky changes

*Nuages*, a short piece to the music of Debussy, succeeded because the movement vocabulary, and concept of "stepping from cloud to cloud," were simpler, and the three dancers nicely communicated an ambience that matched the music and the lovely video backdrop of passing sky.

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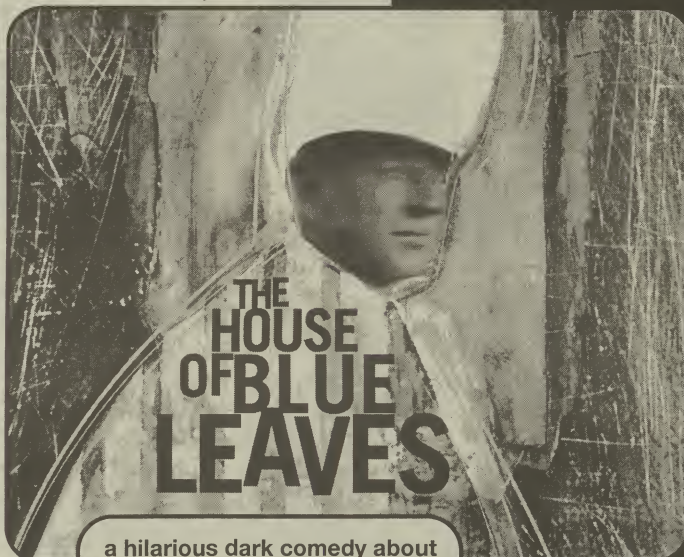
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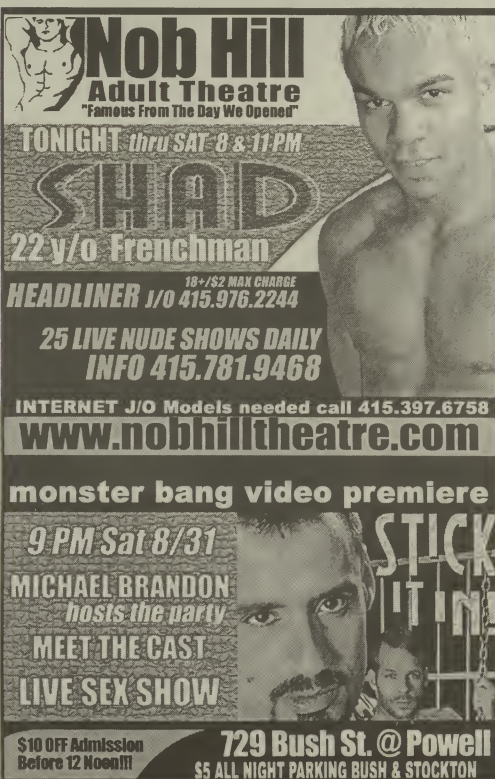
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# Barber's school of jazz

by Tim Pfaff

**D**on't wait around to hear jazz fans talk about "just another Patricia Barber CD." You're not likely to hear it. Each of Barber's half-dozen CDs to date has been so unlike its predecessor — indeed, so unlike any of the others — that, were this a lesser talent, you'd be right to wonder if there's a solid artistic identity at work. But in Barber's case, it's a matter of a restless mind commandeering a gargantuan talent, and never knowing where she's going next — even in the middle of a number — is a part of the ride no true Barber fan would forgo.

Certainly none of the other recordings by this still-little-known lesbian pianist-singer-songwriter had arrived to the promotional drumbeat of her latest Blue Note CD, *Verse*. But even if you've read all about it, you're not — trust me — ready for the songs on what is clearly her best CD to date — by which I merely mean the one that's most "her." The thing about Barber is that there's a lot of "her" there. A savagely good pianist and a singer with the expression and range bestowed on very few voices (we're talking about a vocal instrument somewhere between k.d. lang and Aretha Franklin here), she usually serves up "keyboards" with the concentrated austerity of an Anton Webern (though she can lick out when she takes a mind to) and sings mostly at a purr — except, that is, when she goes for the occasional ecstatic phrase that features the kind of vocal lift-off of, once upon a time, a Franklin or Streisand at full cry.

So much for the equipment. Then there's the musical sensibility — one of the most singular to have hit the scene in decades — and, let's say it, the mind. Barber has legions of fans who would lie in traffic for the opportunity of hearing her sing a night of standards in her regular Chicago haunts (she finally made bestseller status with her previous CD, *Nightclub*, of standards sung "her way"), even though everyone knows this is no ordinary lesbian lounge lizard. She is, instead, one brilliant musician who, while never compromising her integrity,



Jazz phenomenon Patricia Barber: No one ever called her sentimental.

about that song you're singing...," she clobbers you with a penetrating, inescapable emotional truth. While I didn't hear "Kierkegaard" among the names she mentions in the lyrics of many of the songs in *Verse* (all of which are original), I was reminded, listening to the CD, of the Danish philosopher's expression, "thoughts that wound from behind." It's an apt description of how a Barber song works.

## Charged battery

So, in the off-kilter, rollicking, acoustic-guitar-accompanied first song, after Barber the lyricist asks

want her to cut it out, she cuts straight to the heart of the matter.

After one of the weirdest intros imaginable, "The Moon" gives way to a series of incantations made not to but by the celestial orb. Again, at the very moment you don't think you can stand another single line, comes this: "But tonight /there won't be light /because I can't shine /without you." Dave Douglas' keening trumpet wails throughout the song exemplify the brilliant work of the band Barber has assembled for this project. While all the songs pay big dividends on some listening (if not always the first), the one that's sure to strike home the first time, perhaps particularly to gay folk, is the self-explanatorily titled "You Gotta Go Home," a supremely funny anti-love song. The one thing no one ever called Barber — or is likely to — is sentimental.

A CD every bit as odd and individual is the latest from Boy George, *U can never b2 straight*. The former Culture Clubber has come out with a recording for Virgin that, while nowhere near as "bright" as Barber's, is frequently as touching — and unashamedly sentimental. Most of the backups are acoustic, which adds to the CD's personal feel. But the lyrics are so autobiographical — not to say confessional — that the fare is at least genuine. I find all of it engaging, right down to the concluding "Bow Down Mister" tribute to Lord Krishna, whom Boy thanks for his recovery from heroin addiction. But what finally gives the CD its punch is its artistic integrity. It's a whole new "voice" from a familiar musical personality, and it doesn't just work, it manages to be both fun and uplifting in the process. ▽

**Everyone knows this is no ordinary lesbian lounge lizard. She is, instead, one brilliant musician who, while never compromising her integrity, has earned the right to make any old music she wants. That, it would appear, is 'Verse.'**

ty, has earned the right to make any old damn music she wants. That, it would appear, is *Verse* (though don't expect more of the same next time).

One more thing. Barber isn't just smart, she's an intellectual, of the reading type at that. This has posed problems for a subset of her listeners, who would be happy enough to gobble up the musical goodies without the accompanying philosophy. But, left to her own devices, Barber's likely to let you know, directly or indirectly, what she's been reading and thinking lately. Then, just when you're about to say, "And

a battery of smarty-pants questions — "Where is the ring in the truth? Where is the pearl in the oyster? Where is the up in the beat? Where is the soul in the food?" — which you start to think are too smart by half, along comes the clincher, a wrenching, dizzying "I'm lost in this love" (the song's title). The one song whose lyrics aren't Barber's is set to a Paul Verlaine poem, and much of the rest is packed with allusions that come perilously close to being off-putting at the sheer name-dropping level. Blues, for example, are "like David Hockney's pools." But just when you



# Creepsville

## Williams' 'One Hour Photo'

by Robert Julian

Sy Parrish isn't the kind of wiggled-out lunatic you might find ranting on a street corner. He's more like the really weird guy in your condo association who comes to every homeowner's meeting and creeps everyone out with his unsolicited, off-the-wall comments. As the central figure in *One Hour Photo*, Sy is an update of the kind of characters Peter Lorre once portrayed in films like *M* or *The Maltese Falcon*. And in Robin Williams' capable hands, this social misfit becomes a completely plausible cinematic creation.

Sy works the in-house photo counter of SavMart (think Target, without the charm). Over the years, he develops an unnatural attachment to the Yorkin family: Nina (Connie Nielsen), Will (Michael Vartan), and their son Jakob (Dylan Smith). Sy befriends the family while secretly making his own personal copies of the photos they bring in for development. In his fantasies, he thinks of himself as an extended

family member. Then Sy discovers a crack in the façade of the perfect suburban household, and decides to punish the offending husband.

Writer/director Mark Romanek produces a thoroughly dark motion picture, assisted by the beautifully nuanced production values of set designer Tom Foden and costumer Arianne Phillips. Sy's work environment is a familiarly austere and sterile big-box store, beautifully contrasted with the elegant and refined suburban home of the Yorkin family. Sy lives in a dingy apartment and dresses in drab polyester, while the Yorkins drive a Mercedes and sport designer duds. These worlds are destined to collide before the end of the film.

The tone of Mark Romanek's script starts dark and stays that way. His actors all turn in expert performances, with Robin Williams taking highest honors for his solid rendering of the disturbed photo processor. But while Romanek's direction is first-rate, his intelligent screenplay ultimately fails to deliver the home-run audiences will be



In Robin Williams' capable hands, social misfit Sy Parrish becomes a plausible creation.

looking for. The problem with *One Hour Photo* is a weak ending.

After consistently building tension and adding layers of complexity to relationships between characters, Romanek's conclusion is a cinematic *coitus interruptus*. A

more effective outcome would mirror the nail-biting crescendo of films like *Psycho*, *Fatal Attraction*, or *Silence of the Lambs*. But Romanek falters with a thoroughly believable yet dramatically disappointing denouement. This

does not negate all the good work that has gone before, but by the time the credits roll, *One Hour Photo* has become an engaging curiosity instead of the boffo thriller it could have been. Now playing. ▼



What do you mean you don't know the words to Cumbaya? A scene from *The Business of Fancydancing*.

## Fancydancing

Arts cover

While *Smoke Signals* was a wacky take on a fatherless boy mourning his missing father and learning to become a man, *The Business of Fancydancing* plumbs the even-darker depths of how to separate from a friend who is more than a brother and less than a lover. When Seymour leaves for the white man's college, his best friend Aristotle Joseph (Gene Tagaban) comes with him. While Seymour plays the smart Indian (appropriating some of Aristotle's life experiences as fodder for his poems), Aristotle becomes the angry In-

dian. In a smoking scene at the college coffeeshop, Aristotle dares Seymour to return with him to the Rez. Aristotle will burn the pages of Seymour's book, claiming Seymour stole his stories, and leaving him for dead. Seymour will keep Steven (the lover/brother who replaces Aristotle) from sleeping by reading to him from those stolen stories. "All the white people will become Indians. All the Indians will be ghosts."

Alexie challenges us with a riddle: If straight boys lust for whores but marry their mothers, do gay boys pine for their brothers? And what did Grandma mean by the story of her gay rooster? ▼

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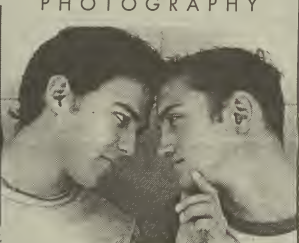
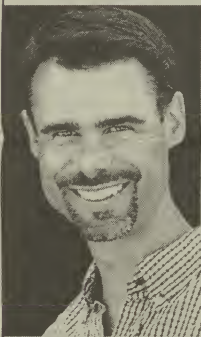
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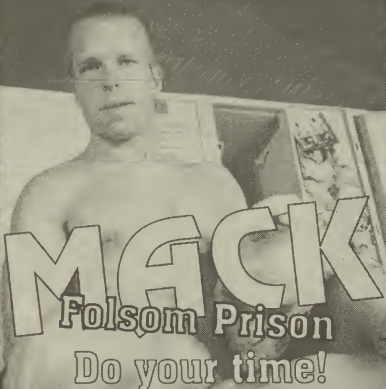
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Phillip R. Ford as Liberace, in a play based loosely on a book by palimony recipient Scott Thorsen.

## Let's Talk

◀ Arts cover

and 1995, a lot of the people I worked with died, starting with Doris, and when I looked around, there was just a whole different scene going on."

But before AIDS took its heavy toll on the creative community, Ford and his colleagues were at the center of a flourishing alternative theater scene. His nightclub presentations included *The Miss Solar System Pageant*, *Box Office Poison*, and *Nightclub of the Living Dead*. Theatrical ventures included *Dolls*, a multimedia musical stage retelling of *The Valley of the Dolls*, and *The Bad Seed* starring Doris Fish.

But the *pièce de résistance* of those imaginative on-a-shoestring years was *Vegas in Space*, a full-length sci-fi spoof that took five years to finish but went on to become a film-festival staple, and is now newly released on DVD.

Ford directed the movie, but the vision belonged to its star. "Doris did everything: the sets, the costumes, the makeup, the wigs," Ford said. "She wanted to put the whole world in drag."

Sadly, Doris didn't live to see the limousines and klieg-lights premiere at the Castro Theatre. In fact, it was Arturo Galster, now playing Doris, who provided her voice in a musical number that required post-production dubbing.

### Simply stunned

"Since then, we've been saying we should do a Doris show," Ford said. He built *Simply Stunning* from her shows, stand-up comedy routines, musical numbers, videos, and writings.

"She was a columnist for the *Sentinel*," Ford said. "She was dying then, but she wrote whatever was on her mind. She was very much into animal rights, and she wrote a column about the leather community that she called 'the dead-animal crowd.' You can imagine the reaction."

In addition to his role as a producer, writer, and director on *Let's Talk About Me*, Ford is also playing Liberace in *Behind the Candelabra*. It's loosely based on the book by Scott Thorsen, Liberace's chauffeur and companion who

eventually sued his patron for palimony.

"It's like a 'Sunset Boulevard' Gothic film," Ford said. "It starts out kind of normal, but eventually becomes completely horrific." Nathan Tucker is playing Thorsen, and Jennifer Blowdryer is the narrator, as well as the director.

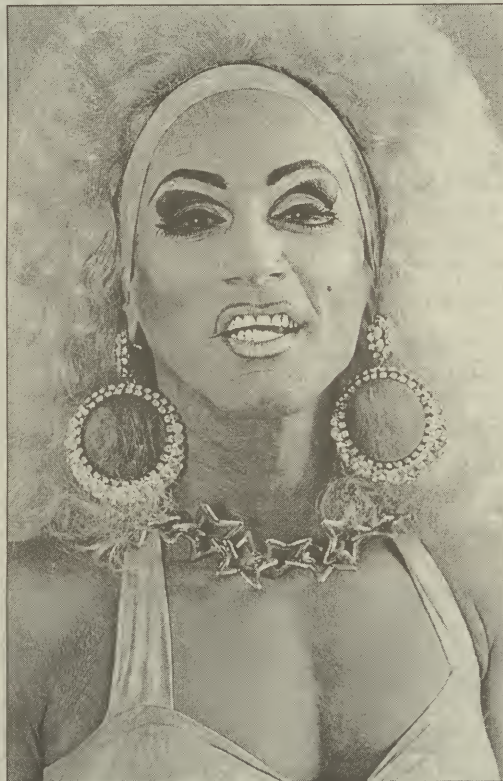
Blowdryer, a Bay Area native, began singing with a punk band during the late '70s, and she chronicled that period in her book *White Trash Debutante*. More recently, she has been a New York resident who has attracted attention with her burlesque-type cabaret events called *Smut Fests*.

"She has an arch sense of humor," Ford said of his longtime friend, though he is cur-

rently ambivalent about his return to show business, which she provoked.

"I'm just about burning myself out doing this show," said Ford, who now has a 9-to-5 job at a financial services company. "I had a marginal life for many years, and I got tired of being poor. I've been leading a quiet, wholesome life, and keeping to a heavy napping schedule, which I've been missing for the past few months. Tell the people to come and see me now, because it's going to be another seven years before I do this again." ▼

**Let's Talk About Me** will run in the Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros through Sept. 22. For tickets, call 861-5079.



Arturo Galster as the incomparable Doris Fish: she wanted the world in drag.



## BOOKS

## Cape Queer

by Jim Nawrocki

*Ptown: Art, Sex, and Money on the Outer Cape* by Peter Manso; Scribner, \$25

Seen from above, the curved, narrow, sandy strip of land that holds Provincetown, Massachusetts looks temporary, like a geographical afterthought. It curls into Cape Cod Bay like a beckoning finger, or a dog's lazily wagging tail. Those are apt metaphors for the somewhat casual, carefree pace of life in "Ptown," and it is this lifestyle, and the people who live it, that are the subjects of Peter Manso's new book, *Ptown: Art, Sex, and Money on the Outer Cape*.

For those who have never been to Provincetown, Manso's book serves as a good primer for a trip there. He focuses primarily on a group of current and recent residents, but he also seasons his account with ample doses of history. And he includes some interesting photos of 19th- and early-20th-century Provincetown, as well as pictures of its famous residents enjoying life on the Cape. Incorporated in 1727, Provincetown is one of the oldest communities in the United States, and it boasts a rich artistic and literary heritage. A legion of legendary American writers and artists have called the place home; these include playwrights Eugene O'Neill and Tennessee Williams, painters such as Robert Motherwell and Jackson Pollock, filmmaker John Waters, and many others.

Almost from its beginning in the 18th century, Provincetown has always been a refuge for outsiders and independent spirits. Manso seems to delight at creating breezy but vivid portraits of many of the local characters who make the town what it is. These include Tony Jackett, a charismatic fisherman, one of many of Portuguese descent on the Cape; Jay Critchley, who comes out and becomes an artist after moving there; and Regina Blinder, a preservationist who fights to save the town's architectural treasures. There are many other memorable citizens, such as Dr. Hiebert, the area's lovably absent-minded physician, who comes off like a

hybrid of Groucho Marx and Mr. Magoo.

Manso is at his best when describing the interactions between the many sections of Provincetown's exceptional population. He recounts, for example, the arrival of the Portuguese immigrants, the beginnings of their fishing industry, and the strange symbiotic relationship that develops between the fishermen's vivacious wives and the town's many party-happy gay men. It's a delightful bit of cultural history.

## Shout it out

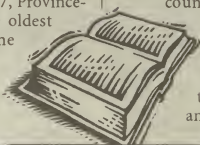
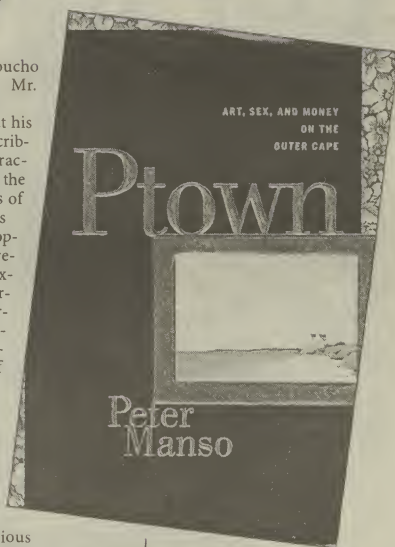
Provincetown, of course, contains one of the densest concentrations of homosexuals in the country, and Manso devotes much of the book to this aspect of the area's history. He not only details some of the riffs and tensions that spring up between the town's gay and straight populations, he also discusses episodes of contentious infighting among the gays. Manso has a good feel for the small drama of everyday human conflict. At one point he describes some particularly nasty encounters between a group of brazen lesbians and some of the townfolk. In one of these, a minor "road rage" incident provokes a loud argument on the town's main street, an anti-Semitic remark is uttered, and local gays and straights stand shoulder-to-shoulder on the street to shout it down.

Manso's prose is chatty and readable. There's an almost gossip quality to much of the book, and given the nature and richness of the subject matter, it's a style that seems fitting. Manso has written two celebrity biographies (of Norman Mailer and Marlon Brando, who also appear in this book), and he presents engaging

portraits of the many celebrities who have lived or passed through Provincetown. There's some rather unflattering coverage of Mailer, who at one point tries to ingratiate himself with the local Portuguese fisherman by attempting, ridiculously, to dress the part.

Manso's extended coverage of the Jackett, Critchley and Blinder stories anchors the book and brings to life the colorful history of the town, but their stories contain a fair amount of pain. Jackett descends into the world of dope-smuggling, and though his misadventures are intriguing and sometimes comical, his bout of lawlessness nearly ruins his life. Critchley's story is similarly compelling. He ends his marriage, comes out, becomes an artist and activist, and lives through the devastation that AIDS brings to the Cape. The book ends on a very dark note, with the description of an unsolved murder that spooks the locals and casts a dark cloud over the sunny, sandy landscape.

There's a certain sadness in reading about Provincetown's transformation. In its early days, it was a relatively idyllic retreat for artists and free spirits. Though it retains much of that spirit today, it is also troubled by an identity crisis brought on by disputes over landmark preservation, affordable housing, and other issues. Still, Manso presents an intriguing picture of a place unique in American culture. ▼



## Book Report

## Coming right up



Next week in the B.A.R.'s Arts & Entertainment section: a preview of the fall arts season in the Bay Area. Highlights from upcoming films, dance, music and theatre—including *Hairstory - A Musical Review*, cast pictured, opening the Theatre Rhino season on Sept. 5. ▼

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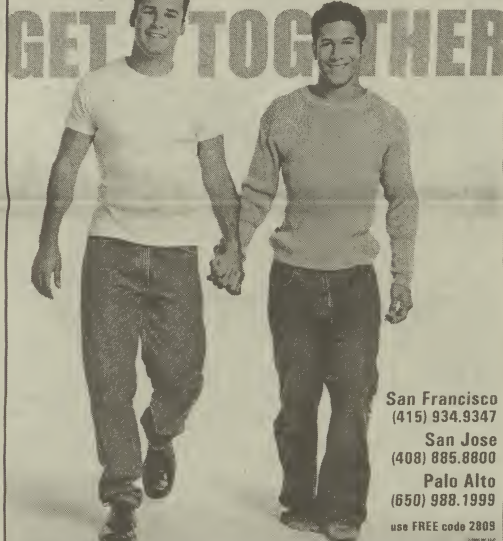
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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare by Mark Mardon



All grown up and still super sexy: CVB's Victor Krummenacher

## Camper returns!

In its long climb to cult status, as it earned kudos as the ultimate alt-rock product of the '80s, Camper Van Beethoven has changed lineups and instrumentations at least eight times, but their re-emergence last weekend for two concerts in San Francisco left no doubt that despite their notoriously stormy past, they still produce a mighty tight sound. I caught their show at Slim's last Sunday in conjunction with the release of "Tusk" (pitch-a-tent), a tribute album released in July of this year, but recorded in March 1987, allegedly when a massive snowstorm in the High Sierra left the band trapped in a studio with nothing better to do than re-record Fleetwood Mac's entire "Tusk" album. For Camper's rare outing over the weekend (including a gig at the Great American Music Hall), Slim's was packed with devotees plus a smattering of young fry catching the band for the first time — and all got to see CVB totally on fire, playing Camper standards plus a couple of the Fleetwood Mac songs, with lots of added electronics and fun weirdness.

My attention focused on bassist Victor Krummenacher, the band's gay poster boy, who joined the then-Santa Cruz-based group in the fall of 1984, creating Camper Van Beethoven 2 along with David Lowery (rhythm guitar and lead vocals), Chris Molla (guitar, melodia, vocals), Richie West (drums) and Jonathan Segel (violin, guitar). From '85 to late '86 the lineup fluctuated, finally settling on CVB 6 with Lowery, Krummenacher and Segel along with Greg Lisher on lead guitar and Chris Pedersen (aka Crispy Deerson) on drums. That iteration lasted from fall 1986 to January 1989, when everything imploded while on tour. The band members got fed up and went off to form new musical entities, including Cracker (Lowery), the Monks of Doom (Krummenacher, Segel, Lisher), and a host of solo projects.

For Camper aficionados, the return engagement was everything they could hope for. All the personnel from Camper 6 were on hand delivering trade-mark Camper songs, including the classic "(Take The) Skinheads Bowling" (1987), performed as an encore to great acclaim. Krummenacher came on stage in a straw cowboy hat, eliciting audience chides — was he trying to hide his gray hair? In fact he looked boyish and even androgynous as he wailed on the bass and sang backup to Lowery's lead vocals.

In my book, Krummenacher is one of the sexiest gay rockers ever, yet few in the audience seemed gay. When he plays solo at the Eagle, he of course draws a gay following, but on this Camper outing at Slim's, it was straightville all the way. But no matter: us lucky ones got to savor the full effect of Krummenacher playing at the height of his career, with one of the all-time great bands. The effect of his swaying hips and furious bass playing was enough to give us fantasies for years! ▼



The Watergarden presents CeCe Penniston live on stage at "Chaos," the happening queer club at The Forum in Sunnyvale. See Friday.

## Fri 30

### Under One Roof

Warehouse Sale of merchandise donated from the SF Int'l Gift Fair, showrooms at the Gift Center, and several major SF retailers. All profits support AIDS service organizations. 10am-8pm thru Mon., Sept. 2. 589 Castro St.

### Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Theatre

The Royal Underground presents "The Wild Party," stage directed by Ron S. McCan, with music direction by Cole Thomason-Redus and choreography by Anthony Rollins-Mullins, a musical based on the poem by Joseph Moncure March, with music and lyrics by Michael John LaChiusa and book by LaChiusa and George C. Wolfe. Manhattan decadence in the late 1920s provides the backdrop for this wicked musical fable about Queenie, a vaudeville chorine, who hosts "The Wild Party" with her black-face minstrel co-star and vicious lover. They are joined by a vivid collection of "creatures of the night" who have come to play in Queenie's gin-soaked world. Starring Cara Rold, Mark Enea, Lola Morales, Mario Balcita, Ernie Tovar, Chave Alexander, Elaine Foley Romanelli, Anthony Rollins-Mullins, Rinabeth Apostol, Jacquelyn Villena, Dan Allan, Scott Stroman, Annie Scott Rogers, Jayce Basques and Daniel Aeschliman. \$15. 8pm Aug. 30 & 31; 2pm Aug. 25 & Sept. 1. 953 DeHaro St. Tix/info: (877) 350-3606; www.jericaproductions.com

### The Forum, Sunnyvale

Club Papi Productions presents "Chaos," a happening gay and lesbian party in an elegant new nightclub space with three dance floors, featuring DJs Chago, Blackstone, and Mike. Plus: The Watergarden Presents CeCe Penniston live on stage singing her classic dance hits "Finally," "Keep on Walking" and more. \$15. 9:30pm-2am. 21+ w/ID. 146 S. Murphy St., downtown Sunnyvale. Tix/info: 793-0333; www.papipresents.com

### DNA Lounge

Tom Bercu (producer of ReUNION) presents the kickoff party for a new tradition: "Labor Day SF," a benefit for the new LGBT Community Center. DJ/Producer Marcus Purnell heats up the house, and the hugely talented,

deeply moving transgender cabaret diva singer/songwriter/band leader Veronica Klaus puts on a not-to-be-missed live performance. \$15 (Weekend Pass Admission: \$60 or \$75 vip). 10pm-4am. DJ/Producer Marcus Purnell. Featuring local personality Veronica Klaus. Admission 21 and over: www.dnallounge.com

### The Eagle Tavern

Freestyle & MAX (Men's Associated Exchange) present "An Evening of Swimmers Discipline," a beer bust with live-music benefit for the Tsunami Swimteam going to the Sydney Gay Games. Featuring the bands 78 RPMS, Psychedelic Wedding, and Hiroshi Hasegawa's Poontang Wranglers. Plus a leather and swimwear fashion show and raffle, hosted by Donna Sachet (back from the dead... Again!). \$20 donation at door. 6pm. 389 12th St. Info: www.maxonline.org

### Washington Inn Hotel Ballroom, Oakland

East Bay Pride presents "Outspoken — A Poetic Experience." \$10 at the

door. 8pm. 10th & Washington. Info: eastbaypride.org

### The Metro, Oakland

East Bay Pride presents "Crookedletta - AY World Homohop Festival," featuring Rainbow Flava (SF/NYC), Ill Formed (London), Shante Smalls (NYC), Dime Life Crooks, and Hermit (Seattle). \$10 cover (or festival pass). 1-4pm & 10pm. 201 Broadway (at 2nd, one block from Jack London Square in Oakland's downtown entertainment district). Info: eastbaypride.org; oaklandmetro.org

## Sat 31

### East Bay LGBT Pride Festival, Oakland

The East Bay's largest LGBT event will draw thousands to enjoy an afternoon of inspired sensations, with more than 100 community organizations, artisans, food and commercial booths, sidewalk-cafe food courts, street entertainers, and beverage gardens sprawling throughout Oakland's beautiful Civic Center and surrounding areas. Four tented concert stages: "The Women's Music Amphitheatre" (sponsored by Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club), featuring Lucie Blue Tremblay, Vicki Randle, Edwina Lee Tyler, Kindness, Rhythmix, Lady Mem'fis; "The peaceOut Homohop Stage" (sponsored by KMEI), featuring Deep Dickollective, Deadlee, Rainbow Flava, God-Des, Mister Maker, Hanifah Walidah, Chaser, Conscious Daughters, and Tori Fixx; "The Queer Alternative Stage" (sponsored by gay.com), featuring Pansy Division along with Tribe 8, the White Trash Debutantes, Glamaside, I Am Loved, Flatcracker, Visitor 42, and Eric Core; and the "ClifBar Latin/House Tent" (sponsored by WILD 94.9), featuring The Reverend (Zami, Dahouse-party) spinning House from 11am-12 noon, J-Funk (Funk Lab Productions) kickin' da Funk from 1-2pm, DJ La Coqui (Jelly's, Club Q, Girl World) slinging Salsa/Merengue from 2-3pm, Anita Lofton (Evolution, Square Friday's, Sunkiss, B-Sides) groovin' from 4-5pm, and Ruben Macias (Devotion, End-up, Body Music) hittin' House from 5-6pm. \$5. 11am-6pm. Ogawa Plaza/Oakland City Hall, 14th & Broadway, Oakland. Info: eastbaypride.org

### Pride Run @ Lake Merritt, Oakland

The East Bay FrontRunners, an organization of gay and lesbian runners and walkers, presents a non-competitive fun run/walk around beautiful Lake Merritt. 9am. Meet at 14th St. and Oak St. in front of the Cameron House. Info: 510-873-0300; www.mdcxtra.com/efbr

### The Metro, Oakland

East Bay Pride and peaceOut present "Crookedletta - BE World Homohop Festival," featuring Rainbow Flava, Deadlee, Deep Dickollective, Hanifah Walidah, Conscious Daughters, God-Des, DJ Mister Maker, And DJ Sick Diamond. \$10 door. 9pm. 2nd & Broadway. Info: eastbaypride.org



New York comedian Reno relives 9-11 in "Rebel Without a Pause" at Brava Theatre Center. See Tuesday.





DareDevil Psychonautic Research Ensemble's "George Bush's Nuts, or, How I learned to Enjoy Real Time War Footage on LSD," starring Brandon Welch, just one of many thrills at the SF Fringe Fest at EXIT Theatreplex. See Wednesday.

### SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoors lovers for an Angel Island Tour/Hike. Enjoy a walking tour with a resident naturalist (in conjunction with Rainbow Recreation). It's a moderate 5-mile hike with a 600-ft. elevation gain. Catch the 10am ferry to Angel Island. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

### SF LGBT Community Center

Queer Jitterbugs invites all to a "Beach Wear Tropics Swing Dance," with a Deco Belles performance and Retro Bathing Suite Contest. No partner or experience necessary. \$10 (volunteers free). 6:30pm Swing lesson; 7:30pm Salsa lesson; 9pm-midnight dancing. All ages. 1800 Market St. Info: www.queerjitterbugs.com

### Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, Oakland

AIDS Project East Bay and Ark of Refuge present the world's first transgender choir in concert. Featuring The Transcendence Gospel Choir's "Healing Mind, Body, and Spirit," an uplifting evening of music and healing ministry. Free. 7pm. 1330 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland. Info: 510-663-7964; home.aattbi.com/~tgchoir

## Sun 1

### The Cat Club

"Club 1984 vs. Trannyshack." Two clubs unite for an all-out New Wave assault on the senses. Featuring 1984 DJs Dangerous Dan (synth-pop/new wave mix), Damon (glam rock/new wave), Melting Girl (gothic/industrial), and Jules (retro rock/pop). At mid-night, Trannyshack hostess Heklina takes over the back room where she hosts a special '80s drag show featuring Putanesca, Phatima, Metal Patricia, Electro the Pop and Lock King, Johnny Kat, Peggy L'eggs and more. 58. 9pm-3am. 1190 Folsom St. (at 8th St.). Info: www.heklina.com

### Sadie's Flying Elephant

K'veth: queer open mike. Lynee Breedlove hosts — Tara Jepsen is on the road. Featured readers include Daphne Gottlieb: \$1 admission. 7 pm sign-up, show 7:30. 491 Potrero (on the corner of Mariposa).

## Mon 2

### Golden Gate Park

Free Shakespeare in the Park presents: *The Winter's Tale*, written by William Shakespeare, directed by Paul Barry. A jealous husband who destroys his own happiness. A faithful servant who makes the ultimate sacrifice. Young lovers on whom rests the hopes of two kingdoms. Many of Shakespeare's recurring themes unite in *The Winter's Tale*, a romance written at the height of the Bard's power. It's the perfect choice for the 20th Anniversary of Free Shakespeare in the Park. Don't miss this epic tale of jealousy and forgiveness, true love and redemption. Nationally noted director, Paul Barry will bring a unique SF

twist to this tale, with a diverse cast, original music, singing, dancing and setting. Free. 1:30pm. Sat. & Sun., Aug. 31 - Sept. 29. Golden Gate Park, West of the Conservatory of Flowers. Info: www.sfsakes.org/park/

## Tue 3

### Brava Theater Center

Brava for Women in the Arts presents New York comedian Reno in a three week run of "Rebel Without a Pause," a New Yorker's first-hand account of the Sept. 11 tragedy. She was in the midst of writing a new show, and was going to gripe about the gentrification of TriBeCa, the NYC mayoral race, the difficulties of being a non-conformist, homophobia and Christian fundamentalism. Then she was woken by the impact of the first plane crash eight blocks away. For many New Yorkers, her stage monologue became a way for them to process the pain through laughter. \$24 & \$26 Tue.-Thu. & Sun.; \$26 & \$28 Fri. & Sat. All shows 8pm. 2789 24th St. (at York St.). Tix/info: 647-2822; www.brava.org

## Wed 4

### Bazaar Cafe

GLBT Songwriter Series, hosted in down-home fashion by local folk/pop singer/songwriter Garrin Benfield, with special guests the Cool Violets and emerging jazz/cabaret/rock/pop sensation Spencer Day. The venue is SF's leading space for up-and-coming folksters — and it happens to be a small cafe in the Richmond District, with a friendly staff and clientele. Donation. 7pm. 5927 California St.

### 'Fringe Fest' @ EXIT Theatreplex

Opening night: "The San Francisco Fringe Festival," a 12-day affair offering an enormous range of live performances at bargain prices, with 35 different shows presented in a rotating schedule at the EXIT Theatreplex (EXIT Theatre; EXIT Stage Left; Exit on Taylor), three theatres within one block of each other downtown, plus 20 "Bring Your Own Venue" shows at spaces around the city (The Marsh; The Odeon Bar; Phoenix Theatre; Shelton theatre; Venue 9; Xenodrome), which allow participants to offer work that exceeds the one-hour time limit, or requires unusual locations or sets. All single tix \$8 or under at door only (\$55 "Frequent Fringer" passes good for 10 shows available through TIX Bay Area, Union Square, or call 931-1094. Info: 673-3847; www.sffringe.org

### Stood Up @ The Stud

"Stood Up!" A Diverse Evening of Stand Up Comedy and Mayhem, featuring laughs with Ronn Vigh, Pippi Lovestocking, and more. \$5. Doors open 7:30pm; show at 8:30pm. Followed by a new party at The Stud, entitled "Wednesday." 9th & Harrison. Info: stoodupsf@hotmail.com

## Thu 5

### Theatre Rhinoceros

Preview: "Hairstory," a new musical about people and their hair, blending gospel, soul, jazz and pop, written by Doug Holsclaw and Johari Jabir; composed and directed by Jabir. \$15 previews (Sept. 5 & 6). Opens Sept. 7. \$16-\$25 Wed.-Sun. thru Oct. 5. 8pm Wed-Sat.; 3pm & 7pm Sun. 2926 16th St. Tix/info: 861-5079; www.therhino.org

### Cesar Chavez Student Center Art Gallery, SFSU

Opening reception: "The Spirit of a Phenomenal Women," works by Keina B. Davis, colorful visual narratives inspired by African American urban culture/history, based on the art of folklore. Free. 5-8pm. Exhibition runs Mon.-Wed. 10am-6pm & Thu.-Fri. 10am-3pm, through October 2. Info: 338-2580; www.sfsustudentcenter.com/artgallery

### Eagle Tavern

The Whoa Nellies invite you to their "Super Happy FunTime" show, in which the band will be debuting their brand-new matching outfits and plenty of new material (including the new song "Sunshine Day" from the Brady Kids). Foibles open at 9:30; the Nellies go on at 10:30pm; and Boss Martians from Seattle plays at around 11:30. This show is the perfect cure for Burning Man burn-outs, extended Labor Day hangovers & depressing news reports. Come on down to the Eagle and get happy! 9:30pm. 398 12th St. (at Harrison).

### The Sisters @ MCC-SF

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence present "Ba-da-BINGO," the hit community fundraiser featured by National Geographic, Bay Area Backroads and the BBC. August is Red, White and Blue Bingo, and the player dressed in the best RW&B costume wins a \$50 cash prize. Your \$12 admission gets you 10 games of bingo with cash prizes up to \$250 per game, special gifts, a chance to win a DVD player, and the antics of the Sisters. Doors open 7pm. 150 Eureka St. (near 18th St.). Info: www.TheSisters.org

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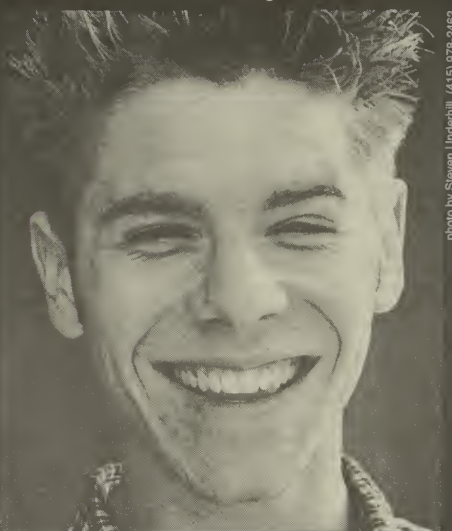


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**Friday • September 6 • 8:00-11:00pm**

courtesy of The Berkeley Free Clinic (GMHC) and the Steamworks

**Wednesday • September 11 • 4:00-7:00pm**

courtesy of the Berkeley Department of Public Health

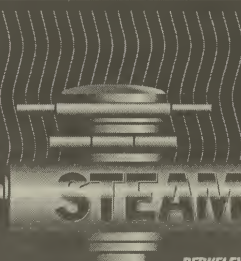
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# Court and spark

'Crime & Punishment: People v. Mayta' on NBC

by Victoria A. Brownworth

If you have been off the planet the past decade and missed Dick Wolf's Emmy-laden *Law & Order* franchise series, then you may have missed this summer's reality version, *Crime & Punishment*. Filmed in San Diego, the series puts a *cinema vérité* focus on actual cases prosecuted by the District Attorney's office. Shot in high-definition video and photographed with a compellingly gritty technique by Academy Award-winning documentary filmmaker Bill Guttentag, the series has a real you-are-there quality to it. Guttentag intercuts the behind-the-scenes work of the

DA's office — strategy meetings, trips to the scene of the crime, discussions with the medical examiner over autopsy and crime-scene photos, ballistics testing (which will play a large part in later determinations about the crime) — with scenes from the courtroom itself. The effect is riveting TV.

Thus far, the series has explored a range of crimes — the rape of a lab tech, child abuse of a toddler, infanticide and domestic violence murder. This Sunday's episode (Sept. 1, 10 p.m. on NBC), *People v. Mayta*, follows the shooting of a man in a San Diego gay bar, The Loft, just before Christmas.

The episode is very different from what one usually sees on prime time regarding the killing of someone queer, because in this instance *all* the players are gay men. In many respects, this is a "simple" bar killing of the sort that happens all over America on Saturday nights. Someone gets jealous, a fight ensues, a weapon is drawn, and when the smoke clears, someone is dead.

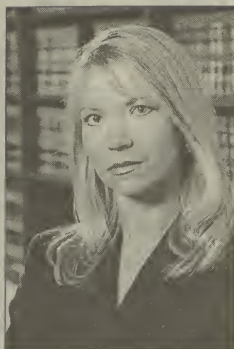
In this case, Thomas Mayta went looking for a pick-up at The Loft and found Peter Blasik, a sarcastic character and by all accounts a rude regular at the bar. Over a discussion of Christmas lights, Blasik invited Mayta to his home to see his display. In a videotaped interview with police later, Blasik states emphatically

that the invitation was to view lights only, not to have sex. But Mayta thought otherwise, and when Blasik rescinded the invitation because he thought Mayta was coming on too strong, things got ugly.

Mayta had gone to The Loft that night carrying a semi-automatic pistol, which, according to defense attorney Courtney Cutter, he took because The Loft was in a less-than-savory neighborhood. When the argument with Blasik ensued, Mayta pulled the weapon. Two shots were fired in the melee that followed, and one fatally shot a bystander in the bar, Gregory Heysel. Mayta was later charged with first-degree murder after the DA's office determined that the murder was premeditated: Mayta followed Blasik from the bar and then back into it with the gun; he had more than enough time to decide *not* to use his weapon, prosecutors argued.

## Game over

The courtroom drama is just that. Eyewitnesses include the bartender who attempted to deflect the struggle and whose frantic 911 call is played in court, patrons of the bar, and Heysel's boyfriend, Stuart Gibford, whose description of the 34-year-old playing a video game in the bar just prior to dying is surprisingly poignant. But it is Blasik's testimony which stuns, as does his interview with police, played in the



Deputy DA Carole Buck in C&P

courtroom. Mayta's attorney tries to impose reasonable doubt on a case that appears to have none, by suggesting that it was Blasik who fired the fatal shot while struggling for the gun with Mayta. Cutter stipulates that Mayta is guilty of no more than involuntary manslaughter for what is, at best, she claims, a terrible accident.

Deputy DA Carole Buck pre-

sents a strong case against Mayta and asks the jury for a conviction of either first- or second-degree murder. Throughout his trial Mayta remains impassive at his attorney's side until the final day, when a hug from his tearful, elderly mother causes him to break down.

Like any good murder mystery, the Mayta case has some last-minute twists and turns. This is TV at its strongest, telling a real-life tale about a side of queer life that reminds us we really are (often at our worst) just like straight people. Great TV, intriguing politics in which no judgments are ever passed about the sexuality of either victim or defendant. And throughout the trial, at the front of the courtroom, a photograph of the handsome, smiling victim. Not to be missed. ▼

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# Possession

by Victoria A. Brownworth

In a summer rife with bad, worse and worst reality TV, we've been riveted by *American Idol*, Fox's S/M version of *Making the Band*. Perhaps we just like being bitch-slapped, but we, like most Americans over five, are addicted to Simon's nastiness, Randy's rudeness, and Paula's tears. We've been holding our breath each week to see who gets the boot.

After last week's show, however, we have come to realize that this show is a sham, a lie, a cheat. If this show were for real, Nikki and her Technicolor hair (so very Cyndi Lauper circa 1985) would be gone-gone. Does no one remember her from *Pop Stars*? Can we even believe that Tamyra has been voted off the spotlight? While Nikki and Justin stay? The rumors about speed-dialing and behind-the-scenes pay-offs must be true. Tamyra was robbed! Will Justin really end up being the *American Idol*? Does America really need another Back Street Boy-cum-Kenny G? Can you say O-Town?

Speaking of being bitch-slapped, set your VCRs now: Joan Collins is headed back to TV. CBS's longest-running soap opera, *Guiding Light*, has signed the diva to play Alexandra Spaulding, complicated doyenne of the Spaulding clan. Last played by Marj Dusay (now doing scintillating Emmy-worthy work on *All My Children* as drug lord/actress Vanessa), the role is meaty and prime for chewing the scenery. Alexandra has a wildly checkered past, which is perfect for Collins, who won the hearts of queens everywhere in her years on *Dynasty* — and she'll even have the same name! Doyenne of the Spaulding clan is a mini-*Dynasty*, and viewing Collins on daytime amidst the stellar cast of *GL* should be a blast.

## Lord abuse

Another soap fave of ours is Roger Howarth, currently starring on ABC's *One Life to Live* as the villainous Todd Manning, a role he has played off and on since 1993. One of the best actors on daytime, Howarth did several groundbreaking stories as Todd on *OLTL*, including the revelation

that he had been repeatedly sexually abused by his father, the notorious Victor Lord.

Now Howarth, slated to leave *OLTL* once again (he's left and returned several times in recent years), is scheduled to star on the WB's *Dawson's Creek* as a closeted professor, Greg Hetson. No doubt this means something for Jack (Kerr Smith, an alumnus of yet another soap, *As the World Turns*), the island's resident queer. Look for Howarth in the two-hour season premiere of *DC* October 2.

In more queer soap news, we are now officially pissed with ABC and *All My Children*. We have been excessively laudatory for over a year about what has been an excellent front-burner story line for Bianca (Eden Riegel), who came out as a lesbian last year. But in a summer of teen romances, Bianca has looked wistful and forlorn. We were momentarily terrified she was going to go straight when Aidan asked her out, with his sexy East End accent. But she reasserted her queerness and, despite nasty barbs from her crazy sister Kendall, has stayed true to her lesbian course.

But how long can the girl go on without a love interest? First there was Rain, who got paid to leave town by Mom Erica. Then there was Frankie, who got murdered by Vanessa. Then Frankie's identical twin Maggie turned up, but is hopelessly het, though she did go to the prom with Bianca on a whim.

As the new fall season approaches, we have this to say to writers, producers and other powers-that-be on the networks: Stop throwing us sops to a queer audience. We might possibly believe that in tiny Pine Valley, where everyone has slept with everyone else, been married to each other at least once, and had illegitimate children with everyone else, there might be only one queer who got there by accident. But this is a common problem on TV: the single lesbian/gay man with no one else to be queer with. We want to see Bianca get laid. Barring that, we want to see her fall in love with someone who doesn't get paid off or killed off. It's been over a year. Maybe for National Coming Out Day, Bianca could get kissed by a visiting activist? Let's see a little

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# Queer Jews speak out

by Gregg Shapiro

Caryn Aviv and David Shneer are the editors of a new essay collection, *Queer Jews* (Routledge, \$19.95), which picks up where the groundbreaking *Twice Blessed* left off a dozen years ago. Aviv and Shneer have compiled a number of thought-provoking essays by queer Jewish writers from all over North America.

Gregg Shapiro: In your introduction, you mention a shortage of major books by and about lesbian and gay Jews published in the US, but there's no shortage of queer Jewish writers. Why do you think queer Jewish writers spend more time writing about being queer than about being Jewish?

Caryn Aviv: I think that what happens with queer Jewish writers is, Jewish identities come through in their writing, but not necessarily explicitly. Part of that is because so many queer Jews have been so alienated by Judaism since they came out and felt unwelcome in Jewish communities, and it was difficult to maintain a connection to communities and traditions that were so hostile to who they were as human beings.

A lot of writing comes out of pain, whether it's the pain of coming out in a hostile society as queer, or coming out as a queer Jew in communities that might be Orthodox or secular, but that don't necessarily embrace that aspect of who they are as queers.

David Shneer: I guess you could ask the same question of why there were so many Jews involved in the '60s leftist movements, not as Jews *per se*. Especially in the 20th century, Jews have been overrepresented in

movements for change, not necessarily as Jews. There's this great article by Isaac Deutscher, a professor of philosophy at Oxford, from Poland. He coined the term "the non-Jewish Jew." His basic premise was that Jews have always lived on the margins of other societies, and have therefore had a particular sensibility towards seeing beyond the specific, at the universal. You can go back through the 20th century and see where Jews have been overrepresented in socialism or civil rights movements. It's a possible way of putting the current phenomenon of Jews overrepresented in the queer movement and writing in a bigger context. There is a definite San Francisco slant to the essays in the collection.

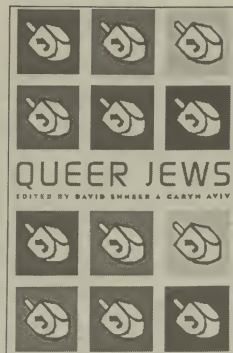
CA: I think you could see SF (and for the past 40 years, SF has probably seen itself) as where everyone else might be in 20 years. If that's the case, then in 20 years every major federation is going to have a gay and lesbian outreach. Because of its focus on SF and maybe NYC, I guess the

book is slightly triumphalist, but part of what we're trying to say is that a lot has changed.

DS: Both Caryn and I have been very active in the intersections of queer and Jewish in our lives and work. We met working at Sha'ar Zahav, the SF synagogue. But we didn't know what the response would be. Ask two Jews something, and you get three opinions. It adds to the tension of the book.

CA: Whether it's about working within established synagogues to create a queer social group or queer-friendly policies, or going to rabbinical school and coming out, we wanted to assess what changes had taken place since *Twice Blessed* came out. A whole generation of people like myself have had help from that book to come out, and the landscape has shifted completely.

DS: The book's writers are not necessarily conflicted. By and large, they see themselves as queer and as Jewish, and are activists as both. There isn't as much wrestling in this book as there was in *Twice Blessed*, and there



isn't as much pain as there is in *Trembling Before G-d*. Yes, we have *Will & Grace*, and yes, we have this book talking about queers changing the face of Jewish society. But there are still a lot of people in pain about their sexual identity. Not everything is as triumphant as *Will & Grace* might want it to be.

CA: When you grow up feeling different, as either a Jew or a queer, you learn to read yourself into texts in a different way than people who are part of a dominant group. It's kind of like driving while black. Most white people don't ever think about getting

pulled over by a police officer and being beaten up, humiliated, or thrown into jail for no reason. I think queer Jews think about those things. Am I going to be humiliated in a synagogue? Will my partner be allowed to come up to the stage where people read Torah and participate in the service? Is my child going to be taunted at school if their classmates find out that I'm a lesbian?

I think that the majority of Jews in America today go to synagogue to be Jewish, and don't do a lot of ritual stuff in their homes to be Jewish. Community centers, synagogues and organizations are public places where people can be Jewish. I don't know how friendly those places are for people who are publicly out. It depends on region and which movement you're talking about. ▼

*Queer Jews* editors Caryn Aviv and David Shneer read at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav in San Francisco on Aug. 29, Cody's Books in Berkeley on Sept. 3.

## Lavender Tube

◀ Previous page

action, please.

Speaking of activists, the National Black Programming Consortium (NBPC) has released its schedule for fall. Look forward to seeing *Brother, Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin* on PBS as part of the *P.O.V.* series. Rustin was the organizer of the 1963 March on Washington at which his good friend, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., gave his famous "I have a dream" speech. Rustin, a gay man, led a complicated and fascinating life. For further info on the making of the documentary, check out [www.rustin.org](http://www.rustin.org).

### Sideshow Anna

On to a different reality: Anna Nicole seems to be crashing and burning yet again, despite the success of her disturbing reality show. Either you want to watch, or you run screaming in the other direction. Anna Nicole appears drugged and out of it more times than not. Talk-show folks seem unable to be nice to her, treating her more like a circus freak than a human being. Howard Stern reduced her to tears; others have sent her running from the set. Of course, it seems to us that if you act like a madwoman on national TV each week, someone just might ask if you are indeed crazy, but it is a bit excessive. We liked Dennis Leary's (*The Job*) comments on *Access Hollywood* (or was it *ET*)? best. "We used to get help for people like this. Now we give them a TV show." Succinct. ▼

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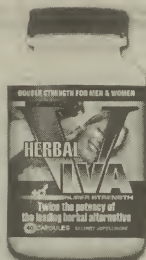
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# Men will be boys

Daddy's Boy contest Sept. 1 at the Eagle

by Mister Marcus

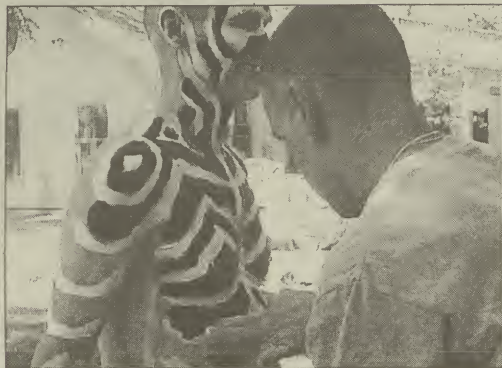
To the outside world, beyond the confines of gay sensibilities, the concept of the "boy" world might seem strange indeed — especially when that world also includes women. In their efforts to try to understand the genre, an inquisitive heterosexual couple tried hard to comprehend why mature males and females of the leather persuasion feel deep down that they are "boys."

I incurred the wrath and some nasty hate mail from what I considered "old guard" people who were aghast that, as the judges' coordinator for the Mr. San Francisco Leather contest not long ago, I chose to pick former International Drummer Boy Dan Hughes — not only as a judge, but as the head judge for that year's contest.

The Mr. SF Leather committee saw no harm; the contestants that year saw no harm; but there was a handful of howlers who condemned me and the committee for daring to put a boy in a responsible position as head judge for San Francisco's highest male leather title competition. The howls reverberated throughout the leather community, but that's all they were — howls. When all was said and done, the contest proceeded as usual, and only die-hards continue to complain to this day.

For many, change is hard to accept. Yet, change is inevitable and I for one have championed "boy" causes ever since I met John Siracusa, one of the heroes of the boy movement as the first "judged" International Drummer Boy. Before him, then *Drummer Magazine* publisher, Tony DeBlase, handpicked Dieter Edwards to be the first ever International Drummer Boy.

By choosing Dan Hughes to be the head judge, I felt secure in the knowledge that even Mr. DeBlase, who was considered old guard, had the foresight, compassion and intelligence to recognize yet an-



A little rouge here ... there, perfect! That's the way it was at the recent Leather/Levi weekend at Saratoga Springs.

other sub-culture of the Leather/BDSM communities that had to be dealt with.

From that year on, the Drummer Boy title has been bestowed upon worthy individuals who have carried the banner high and with pride to create the mood of acceptance within the leather tribe.

This coming Sunday, September 1, the 20th edition of the San Francisco Leather Daddy's Boy competition will play out again in the patio of the Eagle Tavern. The first ever chosen SF Leather Daddy's Boy Jake Banks has been persuaded to take time away from his love of raising horses on Vashon Island in Washington state to judge this event. I am pleased and proud to join B.C. Cliver, Robert Dern, and Keith Truitt on the panel for this auspicious occasion.

Throughout the years, we have had some absolutely great boys with this title. And in very few cases, there have been some disappointments. But whatever your assessment of the boy movement, the San Francisco boys who have won it and whatever else is involved in having this title, the boy movement is here to stay.

Already in major cities, there are boy groups — and they are in-

clusive of women as well. So be on hand this coming Sunday, when the 20th SF Leather Daddy's Boy competition will take place. Hopefully, whatever stigma (real or imagined) that is attached to the title will forever be eradicated. Our boys are no less diligent, hard working, intelligent, resourceful and imaginative when it comes to fund raising schemes than a lot of the daddies out there. And you know something else? The fantasies by boys at both former Drummer (now International Sir/Boy) and in the American Leather Boy competition often are much, much better than the other competitors. Ask anyone who has been and they will tell you the same thing.

## Fair planning

The world's biggest leather event is coming your way when on Sunday, September 29, the 19th edition of the Folsom Street Fair will take place South O' The Slot on world famous Folsom Street. Already, the local hotels and motels are booked solid; many of them paid for in advance last September. But not to worry, if your plastic can handle it, the major downtown hotels are still available. One with spaces still available is quite possibly the best bargain in San Francisco. That

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## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Thursday, August 29

Teri Warkenthien and Chris Carnes (two fabulous ladies!) celebrate their 50-plus birthdays tonight with a big bash at The Transfer, which is also a benefit for The Center beginning at 2000 with surprises and raffles, and hosted by Donna Sachet. This one should be fun!

### Weekend, August 30-September 1

In New Orleans, it's the infamous Southern Decadence weekend featuring the Mr. Louisiana Leather Contest when Danny Alford will step aside for a successor on Saturday night, August 31 at Harrah's Casino.

The 2002 edition of "Power Surge" the female version of "Hell Fire" is supposed to take place in the Seattle area this weekend but at my deadline, not a word was leaked.

Satyr's MC 41st annual weekend run to Badger Flat and our Pegasus MOC guys will be there in full force. If you haven't signed up already, there will be no admission at the gate.

### Sunday, September 1

The 20th edition of the SF Leather Daddy's Boy competition takes place today at the Eagle with a beer/soda bust beginning at 1500. The first ever SF Leather Daddy's Boy Jake Banks flies in from the

Seattle area to judge this one along with B.C. Cliver, Keith Truitt and Bob Dern. Don't miss this one! Also 6 of the 2003 bare chest calendar men will be auctioned off for dinner dates beginning at 1500 with a \$8 beer/soda bust to benefit AEF and PRC. Be there!

### Wednesday, September 4

Boy Bust Buddies tonight at 933 Harrison (777-HEAD). Doors open 2100 to 2300 only. Donation is \$5 for members and \$10 for others, (which includes membership). No cologne! Must be 21 but not over 30.

### Saturday, September 7

Annual "Butch Review" at The Hole in San Diego produced by former Ms. World Leather Annie Romano-Blas to benefit the Ms. San Diego Leather 2003 contest. Including lots of local and national talent. Always a great event!

### Sunday, September 8

Golden Gate Guards \$7 beer/soda bust at the Lone Star Saloon from 1600-2000.

### Saturday, September 14

Last of a 4-part series of demos at Leather Masters in San Jose. The notorious "Midori" gives a "hands-on" workshop.



# Phantasmengoria

by John F. Karr

I had a helluva time getting my copy of *Among Men* back from my mother. I told her that if she liked the latest movie from Berlin-based Cazzo Film so much, she should get her own copy. Teach me to lend out my videos. But she really likes those German boys. And so do I. The typical Cazzo man is wiry, tightly muscled, his head either shaven or severely cropped, his body tattooed and pierced. They're between 25 and 40, and they're studs, even the bottoms. They have a rough trade sort of sex that is nevertheless romantically tinged, or as I prefer to say, ardent.

Such manly attitude, such determination, is a great help in anchoring the inexplicable events of *Among Men*, which is offered in German, but without any subtitles. When two policemen are dispatched from the city into the countryside, they find a vacant car. We know that the car's occupants have entered an abandoned mansion which is in spooky disrepair. Inside it, naked guys with immense raging boners materialize out of thin air, have smashing sex with the city boys, and disappear. Well, some of them disappear. Others just adjourn to another room to screw some other mysteriously manifesting mister.

So you guess that the house must be haunted, full of ghosts. My German is rusty, but did one of the city boys say, "Funny, you don't look like ectoplasm to me?" These guys are far too corporeal to be ghostly, having a marked conspicuity of cock.

Fortunately, I visited the generously illustrated and most informative Cazzo Film website, where a plot synopsis reveals that although the house may actually be haunted, "It seems that a brutal sex clique rams up anyone who enters the house." And cliques used to be so exclusionary. But can the city boys tell the difference between ghosts and ramming cliques? "Are these steamy studs real," the website posits, "or are these sex ghosts at work?"

As my friend Lotte Lenya used to say, "Who Cares?" (Well, she was always singing it, but you know that Lotte.) The outcome is



(L to r): Lance de Moor and companion ghosts Mike French and Erik Lenn haunt the German countryside in Berlin-based Cazzo Film's *Among Men*.

that everyone is pleasantly and sometimes severely satiated. In the movie's first big encounter, city boy Lance de Moor, who's an elongated piece of muscle, suddenly finds there's a naked guy on the sofa who wasn't there before. With lanky limbs spread in lascivious repose, he's a slab of decadence, his hard dick an impermeable weight against his taut stomach. What is Lance to do? It's obviously *de rigueur* that de Moor debone da guy with great dispatch.

## Gag reflex

They're joined by a grizzled guy in fatigue pants who begins rudely gagging our cocksucker with a majestic cock that has the longest glans. I relish seeing avowed adults in porn, and you can swear by 39-year-old Mike French, whose character in *Among Men* is named Mega Sex Rammer. I

couldn't have said it any better myself. The Cazzo website is quite informative about Herr Rammer, who's making his debut in *Among Men*. He thinks guys with scars are a big plus, but he draws the line at blood sports. He's a pharmacist—one of the sexier occupations, don't you think?—and dreams of becoming a porn star in this country. Well, I have a place he can stay. Mike's methodically grueling fucking, seen with impressively close detail, results in an orgasm

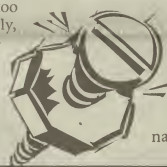
of long spurts that claw the air as they are over Lance's body.

In another room, the second city boy stumbles upon Ivan, hanging by his wrists from the ceiling. He's getting his ass smacked and nipples worked over by stern blond Rick Hollander, whose cockring nearly slices his package off his body, making his perineum swell monstrously. Rick's such a smashing fucker that Ivan unhands his own dick so it can rear up, untouched, to let a Niagara of cum gush forth. Like me, you'll rewind.

Well, the cops have arrived. In subsequent scenes and in varying combinations with the city boys and other personages both real and perhaps not, they have sex that is most definitely real—the kind of rimming where the rimmer really ought to have a snorkel, the sort of cocksucking that threatens to blast out the back side of a guy's head, and some deep-plunging dildo action that positively scandalizes a cop's rear end.

The second cop is a hunky blond named Willi Wonder. Which, when properly pronounced as Villy Vonder, is weally widdiculous. When Villy vakes his slumbering partner with a lingering kiss, the wrought-iron bed they're on is magically transported to a verdant meadow, where the pair enjoy a fervently flip-flopping *bruderschaft* that can't be required by their Book of Wegulations. What a wotantic wind-up. ▼

www.allworldsvideo; 1 (800) 537-8024



## Karnal Knowledge

## Mister Marcus

◀ Previous page

would be the Hayes Valley Inn (417 Gough St.) right near the Civic Center. If it were a book store it would be named a Clean Well-Lighted Place (in an upscale neighborhood, convenient to the Castro and SOMA) and it's run by a gay-friendly management and Dennis Hale (a leather man, bike and former club member) is the key contact. You can check out their facilities by surfing to [www.hayesvalleyinn.com](http://www.hayesvalleyinn.com) and even make reservations online where the prices are listed, photos of the facilities and other useful information about that neighborhood. If you're not online, their toll-free phone number is (800) 930-7999 and their local phone number is (415) 431-9131. Don't wait too long. This is an excellent and economical classy place you

will love. Do it today!

And speaking of Folsom, remember, San Francisco Leather Pride Week kicks off on Sunday, September 22 when "Mama" Reinhardt once again commands the annual Leather (Pride) Walk from the Disastro to South of Market with "pit" stops at the Loading Dock, Powerhouse and finally ending up at the Eagle. The second annual raising of the gigantic Leather Pride Flag in Harvey Milk Plaza takes place at noon and the walk steps off at 1300. After arriving at the Eagle the first of two dinner date auctions with the 2003 Bare Chest Calendar men will take place with Lenny Broberg doing the auction chores. Always, always a fun (and profitable) afternoon for both the AIDS Emergency Fund and Positive Resources Center. From then on, every night is booked solid with events that culminate in the world's

biggest leather event. I hope you are all getting prepared for the invasion of leather folk from around the world.

All the current leather titleholders will be introduced on the 12th Street stage at 1300 hours, right in front of the Holy Cow. Don't miss this show!

The Southern California Leather Sir contest was held in San Diego last weekend but at my deadline, no news was received, probably due to computer glitches, but you will be the first to know who will represent the Southland at the finals in St. Petersburg, Florida in October.

Take care, live, love, laugh and do your part at fundraisers—just do it in leather! And if you need to know more about what is happening in the leather world, in San Francisco and beyond, always, always click on [www.L LeatherPage.com](http://www.L LeatherPage.com). See you next week! ▼

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Labor Day Sunday door 6pm-4am Labor Day Monday door 7-10pm

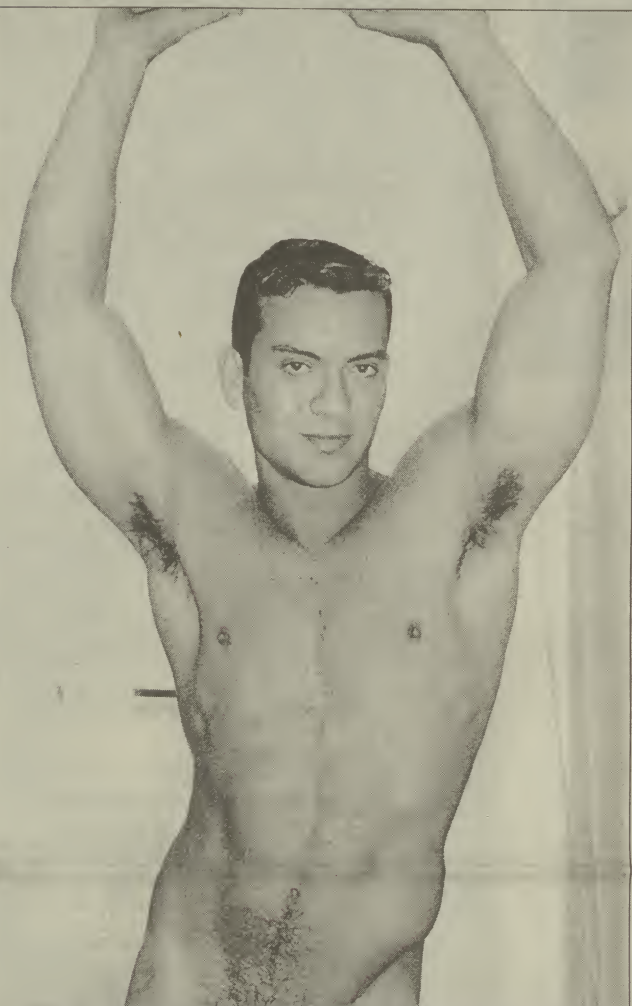
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# BAR TALK



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## PARTING GLANCES

**"Are You Scorpio?"**  
Friday July 26 9pm, you went from Davis Symphony Hall and we met at statue (corner Grove & Van Ness). You asked how many blocks to Bart... I am curious because I am Pisces. Please call, you a kind guy. ☎ 71972

**\*Smiles @ Fag Fridays 8/2\***  
You: Asian, muscular, around 5'8", short salt-pepper hair, big smile w/2 friends. Me: WM, 5'11", muscular in white shirt. Good eye contact. I'd like to meet you. ☎ 71973

**Barney's on 24th St. Sat, Aug 10**  
Around 7pm. You: handsome, dark hair (at table with two friends), smiling back. Let's meet for more smiles! ☎ 71988

**"Lindo Peruviano"**  
Muni (Civic Center) Sunday, August 4, our eyes met on the steps, on the ramp, and on the "K" train. I called you "Lindo" want more? ☎ 71989

**Black Sand Beach, Sat 8/10**  
We talked. You translated your tattoos-your name on your stomach, love on your back. Great day till the fog chased us away. Wish I'd given you my number. ☎ 71990

**Cafe Flore Cute Guy, 8/13/02**  
You with Asian; me with blonde. Discussed my shepherd's pie, your raw burger. You left, we smiled. Get together? ☎ 71997

**Sat 8/10 "Lone Star" 11pm Or So..**  
You: Tall, dark, bearded, balding, dark jacket. Me: tall, dark, mustache, red shirt, cap. You entertained short shaved mustache bear. We traded looks. Let's trade more! ☎ 71998

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**"Safe Sex Only"**  
GBM, 51, 5'10", 220, ch. 50", aggressive, swollen nipples, nice legs, goodlooking, looks 45, 9 1/2" to 10", and 7 1/2" round, kissable, strong appearance like a football player. ☎ 71974

**GWM ISO GAM For Dating, LTR?**  
Me: 49, 6'1", 195lbs, professional, romantic, humorous, and versatile. Enjoy movies, plays sports, working out. You: similar interests, honest. Call. ☎ 71975

**Mature Men!!**  
WLM 46, 6', 165lbs, dk. hr. ISO mature men over 50 who enjoy deep kissing, holding, affection & oral pleasures. Non-gym, husky/heavyset, facial hair a plus. Not into gay scene or lifestyle, drugs but I drink, smoking ok. ☎ 71976

**One Good Man Wanted For Lover**  
White man 49, 6' 209lbs brown hair blue eyes a bottom love oral seeking White man 40-60 for a lover. ☎ 71977

**Wanted - Nice Guy, Goal - LTR**  
Young thinking almost 57, S.W.M. 6'1", 195 dark hair & mustache. Wanting soul mate who can communicate. I like: gardening, weekend trips, dogs, herb, quality time at home looking for some what younger (mid 30's through 40's) any race or color, exotic looks, 2nd spirit, especially encouraged to call. ☎ 71978

**"Strong & Aggressive"**  
You must be able to take my aggressive strong sucking of your nipples and neck and belly button. I'm 9 1/2" to 10" and 7 1/2" round for safe sex. ☎ 71979

**Looking For A Rebound Boyfriend**  
...sort of. Friends dared me to place this ad, so here goes. Recently single & missing the fun stuff. Looking for someone to hang out, make out, have fun sex, go to the movies, make dinner with, etc. At least for the foreseeable future... and maybe beyond. Pretty simple. I'm a great guy. Really. GL, mid 40s, professional, etc., U should be similar, but all considered. Call now. All calls returned. ☎ 71980

**Black Top!**  
"44yr sex feet, bald, handsome, top" seek bottom only for intimate activity possible ltr, open to any race. ☎ 71981

**"18 To 25 Only"**  
Black, 51, 5'10", 220, ch.50", goodlooking, looks 45, kissable, aggressive. You 18 to 25 can stand my strong love making. Nice round butt and swollen nipples. ☎ 71982

**Let Do It! In Uniforms**  
Do you like a man in military uniforms, leather uniforms. What your tape? Me: brn/blue, 5'7", 169, 33. Let do it! Men to boys. Must be 18-39+, bears ok two. ☎ 71991

**Peninsula Poz Guy**  
Seeks attractive, loyal, tender guy for dating. I'm 6ft, 47, 160lbs, attractive, slim, muscular, employed & passionate. You're affectionate, employed, & passionate too. ☎ 71999

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**\*Hungry Cock Sucker\***  
GWM 49 loves Big cock 8" or better uncult a plus! Lay back and get expertly done downtown location discreet. ☎ 71951

**Pool + Voyeur = Fun**  
Exhibitionist, Hot, Interracial couple will travel within two hours of Bay Area to frolic waterside for your viewing pleasure. Age unimportant. ☎ 71952

**ISO Hair Little Fuck Buddy**  
Hairy muscled tattooed skinned leatherman, 5'8", 145, poz, wants short hairy muscled buddy for rough hard sweaty mutual latex free butt-fucks; must be hairy and into mutual rough play. ☎ 71953

**Spank Your butt**  
Goodlooking topman, 37, 5'11", 170#, work out. Seeks well-built bottom with firm, round butt spanking. Into role-playing and plowing your ass. ☎ 71983

**\*Suck Me, Fuck Me!\***  
32yo 5'8"x9" of hard hung cock waiting to be used. Me-I want it hard while you grab my cock and talk dirty. Dave ☎ 71984

**The Hottest Guy In Town**  
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

**\*Lovers Who Crave Others\***  
Attractive GWM couple ISO third person or couple wanting masculine hung top to satisfy tight ass plus versatile firm partner services healthy mantool. Hot action guaranteed. No fats or fems! ☎ 71992

**J0 Buds CB Play Tit Work**  
Mild to edge play, Me 5'4", 185# Italian hairy s/p buzzcut, stache seek guys over 45 for any of the above & mutual massage - East Bay A+, but can travel. ☎ 71993

**Blk Top Sks CD/TV/ Sissy To Plow**  
Masculine total blk top sks total submissive btms who likes dark meat. Be clean shaven and smooth. HIV- drug/disease free. ☎ 71994

**Flex Your Throat Muscles**  
Bi WM 40's HIV- masculine seeks gay HIV- slim or muscular submissive deep throat expert for long slow squirts at your SF place. ☎ 72000

**Slim, Smooth Group Cock Wanted**  
6'1", 200lb., W/M is seeking a group of very smooth, slender and clean shaven guys with large cocks. Let's get together so that you can take turns fucking me! ☎ 72001

**Need Asian Boy For Virgin Butt**  
50 seeks 30yo/ smooth clean shaven for oral butt action. I'm W/ goodlooking needing my first time sex w/you. Your place long time fun teach me how to enjoy. ☎ 72002

**The Sexiest Guy In Town**  
Even the sexiest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Be safe! ☎ SAFE

**ISO South Asian Man!!**  
GWM, 32, 6'3", 190, b/bl, HIV-, healthy, versatile passionate, romantic, intelligent, educated seeks compatible Indian, Pakistani, etc. for friendship, sex, adventure. ☎ 72003

Safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

**Hot Blond GWM, 21.**  
And older friend seek b's/straight for 3-some jo/ oral/ anal exploration, Black, Latino, Asian, tops strongly encouraged. Must be 18-28, slender/ athletic build. Santa Cruz. ☎ 72004

**"Just Shut-Up And Ride"**  
WM 37, 5'10", 195lb blond/blue muscle guy wants good-looking masculine men to screw. Call anytime. ☎ 72005

**"Smooth Butts Wanted!"**  
Black male, goodlooking, muscular, hung. Seeking smooth butts to service. Body-builders a plus. 21-45. All replies will be answered. ☎ 72006

**Older In Shape Bottoms Wanted**  
GWM 40's hairy masc straight-acting-seeks professional looking to worship between my legs- role play- can get rough or kink- suit A+. ☎ 72007

## LESBIAN

**Slave Property For Owner**  
Slave seeks sadistic cruel owner to serve. Total and complete surrender to Lesbian. Please allow me to serve. ☎ 72008

## FETISHES

**Barefootin' Buddy!**  
GWM, 34, slim, into natural barefoot lifestyle; always barefoot, everywhere. Wants similar guys with tough, filthy feet for barefoot outings on grimy streets. Will worship your filthy feet; mutual ok. ☎ 71985

**Eat Me**  
Even the tastiest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Play safe. Wear a condom. ☎ SAFE

**ISO Bear Daddy Nipple Wk Out Buddy**  
47 yr ol. GWM stucky 220# serious nip-pig & huge erect nips! Brn/bm, salt-pepper goatee, tat's, piercing, smoker! ISO huge nip bear daddy & attitude. For serious nip wk out sessions, smoker A+. Please call. ☎ 71986

**Total Pig!!**  
GWM 39yrs 150lbs blond-brown swimmer build 8" cock, very hot hole, into fisting, toys, fucking the wilder the better, mostly bottom but I like to top also. ☎ 71987

**\*Weightlift Nude\***  
Have bench, barbell, dumbbells. Strip down, workout, or just watch me workout. Am 49, 5'9", 190. ☎ 71995

**"Pitslave"**  
Needs pinstripe for slow careful training followed by on-call service, grooming and worship. ☎ 71996

**Erotic Rope Bondage**  
Hot, realistic, sweaty rope bondage. Gags, toys and lots more. I'm 43, GWM, 5'8", 160, in-shape 4, good looking. Seeking masculine in-shape guy 21-45. Safe, trustworthy, discreet, HIV-, SF or East Bay. ☎ 72009

**\*Butt Munch\***  
Muscular jock butts eaten by cute discreet guy in Castro. ☎ 72010

## OTHERS

**The Hottest Guy In Town**  
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

**Tennis Player Wanted**  
By GWM, 49, HIV- looking for playing tennis on a regular basis, during day to stay in shape, this is not about sex. ☎ 72011

# BAR TALK

## PERSONALS ARE FREE!

### CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐  
Seeking Relationship ☐  
Seeking Adventure ☐  
Lesbian ☐  
Fetishes ☐  
Couples ☐  
Others ☐

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

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You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

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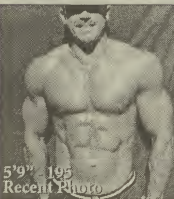
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\* "Best in SF!"  
\* "Strong, sensitive touch"  
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Deep Tissue  
Therapeutic  
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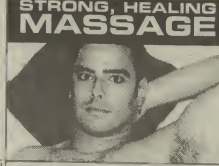
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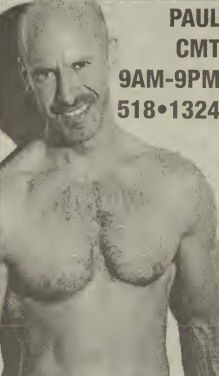
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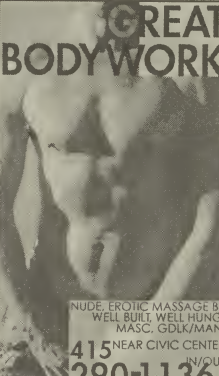
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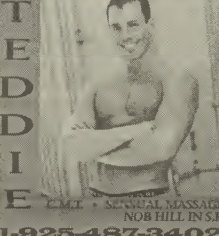
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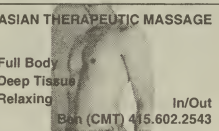
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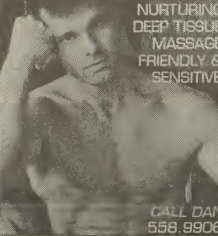
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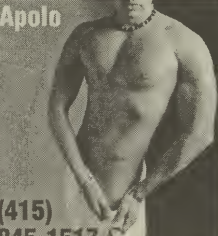


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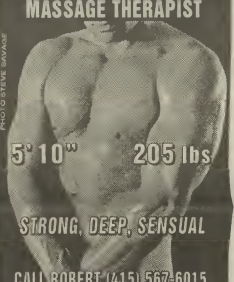
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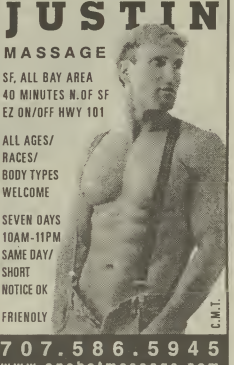
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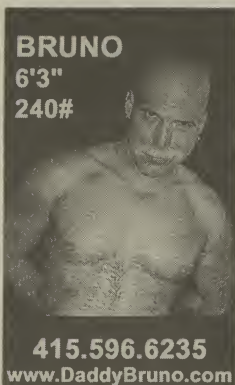
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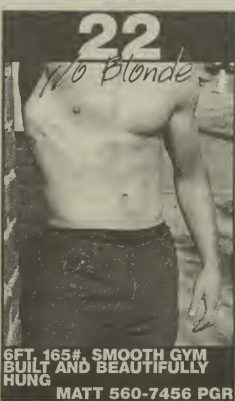
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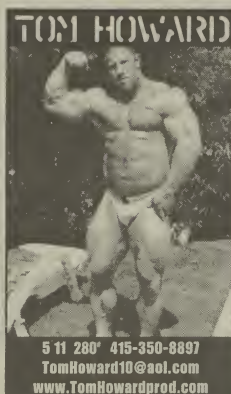
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**22**  
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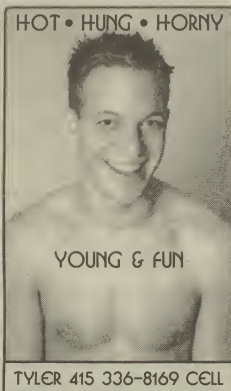
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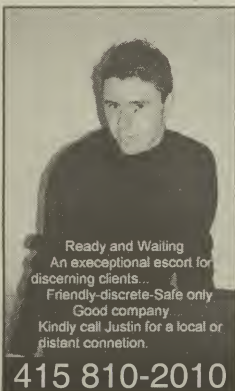
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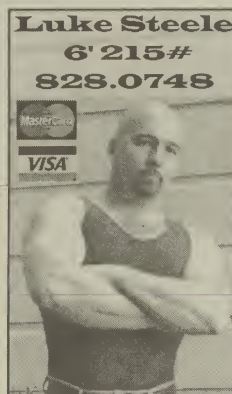
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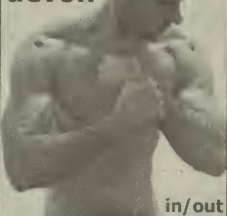
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Serious only.  
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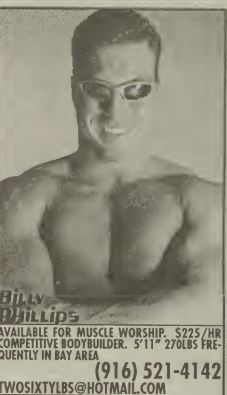
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very versatile, beautiful, healthy  
friendly w/a gym toned physique  
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very versatile, adorable baby  
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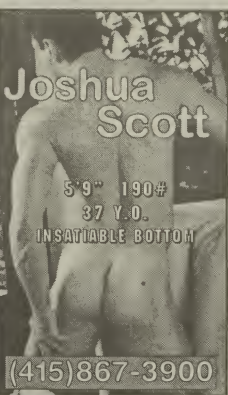
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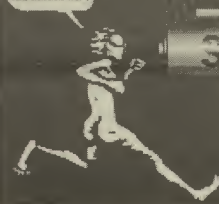
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DADDY, MAY I HAVE NEW LEATHER?  
WILL YOU HELP ME BREAK IT IN AND GET IT WET?**

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Name

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City

State

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Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

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**PROTECT YOURSELF!** See your doctor about vaccination today. For referral to a gay-friendly physician near you, call GLMA at 1-877-LGBTDOC or visit our Web site at [www.glma.org/hepatitis](http://www.glma.org/hepatitis)

  
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